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Vol II No 043 *3 March 1980*

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BCP DAILY HAILS BREZHNEV'S 22 FEBRUARY ELECTION SPEECH

AU291842 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 23 Feb 80 p 1 AU

[Editorial: "In Defense of Peace"]

[Text] The election speech delivered by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, was awaited and welcomed with tremendous interest worldwide. Our television and radio carried the voice of the Leninist party and of the great Soviet country into every Bulgarian home. Our people appreciate this speech as a genuine manifestation of a consistent peace-loving policy; as an expression of the Leninist policy of communist construction, of consolidating worldwide socialism; and as an expression of the policy of freedom, progress and of political and military detente.

Comrade Leonid Brezhnev's speech is permeated by serene optimism, calm and confidence in the future, and by a sincere peace-loving spirit. This speech conveys the great plan and foresight of the Leninist party. It conveys the Soviet people's constructive efforts and striving for communism. It conveys the awareness of a country of its own historical mission. This country is the Soviet Union, which today is the stronghold and herald of all peace-loving and progressive forces.

The meeting is the great Kremlin palace, the cordial words the constituents said about their worthy candidate, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev--all these things reflect the political atmosphere existing in the Soviet Union on the eve of the elections. These words and this atmosphere are the symbols and the expression of the ideological-political unity of the Soviet people, closely rallied around the CPSU. These words and this atmosphere reflect the social cohesion of all groups and strata of Soviet society. They are a manifestation of Soviet patriotism and internationalism.

Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev described the remarkable role and cohesion, the unity of Soviet society in pointing out as follows: "And let our enemies remember the lessons of history. Let them know that the unity of the Soviet people manifests itself with particular force whenever people try to talk to us in the language of threats."

The speech delivered by the first Soviet party and state leader came at an exceptionally important historical moment, a moment of crucial importance for the development of contemporary international life. This is a moment in which the forces of imperialism have recourse to a counteroffensive against detente, against peace, and against the peoples' rights to a free and independent existence. This is precisely why the unshakable stand of defending the ideas and essential character of the policy of detente adopted by Comrade Leonid Brezhnev is of such decisive importance for all peoples in the world. His words in defense of peace and international cooperation are of infinitely greater significance than any other words, because they express the stand of a great country which has made and is still making an invaluable contribution to the consolidation of peace and to the restraint of rearmament. His words represent the stand of a party whose programs adopted at the 24th and 25th CPSU congresses have become the common program of all people struggling for peace and social progress. This stand will be welcomed with tremendous gratification by all these people because the adventurism and opportunistic approach of the imperialist forces, and above all of the United States, are being opposed by statesman-like wisdom and a sense of responsibility. We should well remember Comrade Leonid Brezhnev's following words:

"...We are in favor of consolidating and not destroying detente. We are in favor of reducing and not increasing armaments.

"We are in favor of drawing closer together and of mutual understanding among peoples and not in favor of artificial estrangement and hostility."

This consistent and sincere peace-loving spirit, which stems from the very nature of the Soviet country, is combined with a categorical resistance against the policy of aggression and imperialist pressure. Those gentlemen, who are relying upon the revival of the "policy from a position of strength" should become aware of the fact that no one is capable of intimidating the Soviet Union, that the forces of this country are tremendous and that the Soviet Union, together with its allies, will always be capable of defending itself and will always be able to resist any hostile aggression.

The unrestrained anti-Soviet campaign that is being conducted under Washington's leadership in particular in connection with the so-called "Afghanistan events," has suffered another devastating blow. The Soviet military contingents in Afghanistan will be withdrawn as soon as the reasons for their presence have been eliminated, as soon as any forms of imperialist interference from the outside against the government and people of Afghanistan have fully stopped.

The speech delivered from the high rostrum of the great Kremlin palace once more reflects with great emphasis Comrade Leonid Brezhnev's personal contribution to the cause of peace and detente and to the cause of socialism and progress. As a remarkable Leninist and as a party leader and statesman of great inspiration and foresight, Comrade Leonid Brezhnev demonstrated in deeds how irreconcilably and loyally the interests of peace and of international understanding should be defended, how resolutely the plans and intrigues of the imperialist forces should be opposed.

Each word contained in Comrade Leonid Brezhnev's speech is of tremendous political importance for the people of socialist Bulgaria, as well. We highly appreciate and wholeheartedly support, in particular, the statement implying that now the unanimity and unity of action of the socialist countries are more important than ever and that now the consolidation of peace and detente, as well as the protection of mankind's peaceful and just future, depend upon our joint efforts, upon the efforts of all progressive and peace-loving forces.

NICARAGUA'S BORGE SCHEDULES MID-MARCH VISIT TO BULGARIA

AU291948 Sofia BTA in English 1842 GMT 29 Feb 80 AU

[Text] Managua, February 20 (BTA special correspondent Henri Savoy)--"We have great sympathy for Bulgaria and most sincerely admire her. It is particularly interesting for me to visit your country so as to convey the same warm sentiments which our people, the Sandino Front for National Liberation and our revolutionary armed forces have for the people of Bulgaria", declared in a conversation with Bulgarian journalists Mr Tomas Borge, member of the national leadership of the Sandino Front for National Liberation and minister of the interior of Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan leader, popular in his country, will visit Bulgaria in mid-March. He expressed his desire to become familiar with the revolutionary traditions of the Bulgarian people and to learn from them: "Our visit to Bulgaria will give us a chance to become familiar also with the practical implementation of Georgi Dimitrov's formulations which, as is known, were decisive in the development of the revolutionary process in your country. It is very important for us to be acquainted with the realization of those of Dimitrov's behests which are of great importance for us as well, for instance the role and place of youth to which Dimitrov assigned an important place.

"We should like to become better acquainted also with the participation of the popular masses in the revolutionary struggle, with your experience in rallying all the progressive forces for the fulfillment of the noble tasks of the revolution. This is most important for us since in Nicaragua there are still people who do not understand the significance of a broad united front, who are not aware of the need to neutralize certain forces which are alien to the revolution, and to coordinate and centralize all the actions for the attainment of the common goal. These are formulations which we think to be able to understand best on the spot in Dimitrov's country where they have been translated into reality. In conclusion, I should like to express my cordial sentiments to the Bulgarian people whom I will have the pleasure and luck to greet personally when I arrive in our fraternal People's Republic of Bulgaria which has by deed expressed her warm sympathy for the Nicaraguan people, a sympathy and fraternal sentiments which are reciprocal," Mr Borge stressed.

PROGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL PHONE EXCHANGE REPORTED

AU291532 Sofia BTA in English 0820 GMT 29 Feb 80 AU

[Text] Sofia, February 29 (BTA)--An international automatic telephone exchange with 800 lines is to be completed in the Bulgarian capital by the end of 1980. The direct telephone links with all socialist countries will be increased.

New 60-channel telephone installations on the Sofia-Vienna line and direct 12-channel lines connecting Sofia with Zurich and London will be put into operation. 417 million leva will be invested during the 7th five-year period (1976-1980) in the updating and reconstruction of this country's communications network. As a result of this, the installed new capacities will be 63 per cent more than in 1975, with 290,000 new telephone posts.

The first electronic exchanges of the "crosspoint" type, made in Bulgaria are already functioning. New Soviet equipment will be imported for increasing the capacity of the subscribers' lines by 6-8 channels which will make it possible to increase the capacity of the network several times. The implementation of a programme for automatic control of radio and TV installations has started. An automated system for control of the country's telephone network will be built. The use of containers is being introduced in the transport of mail and newspapers.

BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL TU SESSION--Sofia, February 27 (BTA)--The 31st Session of the Directive Committee of Trade Unions International of Public and Allied Employees opened here today. The participants in the session (delegates from 26 countries) will discuss the circumstances in which the working people in the developed capitalist countries live, the influence of the crisis of capitalism in the developing countries, the activity of trade unions in the socialist states. It was stressed in the report of the Secretariat of Trade Unions International of Public and Allied Employees that the chief reason for the world economic crisis of capitalism is the arms race. Underlined was that behind the mask of a "policy of saving" an offensive against the health care and welfare spendings has been launched. The session pointed out that the public and allied employees and their trade unions should consolidate their international solidarity against the advance of the big monopolist capital. Emphasized was that the situation in the offices and communal service enterprises has been increasingly exacerbated by the "belt-tightening" policy of certain governments and by disregard of the needs of the working people. [Text] [Sofia BTA in English 1340 GMT 27 Feb 80 AU]

BREZHNEV'S ELECTION SPEECH STIRS COMMENT IN PRESS

Newspaper Coverage

AU291741 [Editorial Report AU] The 22 February speech by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has received extensive coverage in Czechoslovak newspapers. The newspapers emphasize Brezhnev's stress on the action unity and cohesion of socialist states, and underscore the constrast between the U.S. policy of provocation and aggressiveness and the USSR's consistent policy in pursuit of peace and detente.

In a 700-word commentary carried by Prague MLADA FRONTA on 25 February on page 3 and entitled "The Certainty of the 'Eighties'," Josef Vesely notes that the recent U.S.-initiated anti-Soviet attacks by the West and the Western counterattack against detente and the people's rights are offset by Brezhnev's confirmation of the "invariables of the USSR's peaceful, realistic and prudent policy." He rejects claims about the USSR's "egotism" by mentioning space cooperation plans between the USSR and India, and cites Brezhev on the USSR's intention to withdraw its military contingents from Afghanistan as soon as the United States and Afghanistan's neighbors stop "all forms of meddling in Afghan affairs," which are "seriously endangering" the security of the USSR's southern borders.

On 25 February the Slovak youth daily SMENA on page 2 carries a 700-word commentary by Otto Banik, entitled "The Correctness of the Policy of Detente" and noting that the U.S. aggressiveness may be halted only by strength and a sensible policy; that the socialist states' cooperation, as the core of their unity, has become the propellent of their development; and that the U.S. leadership's orientation toward the undermining of international detente must be resolutely rejected, as must all imperialists' attempts at imposing their will on the socialist states. Banik also cites Brezhnev in saying that the USSR's action in Afghanistan was not intervention.

The Czech agricultural paper ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY on 25 February carries a page 1 editorial entitled "The General Line." The editorial states: "It is typical that even in this crystallized situation the Soviet proposals are unambiguously positive. Let the United States insure the halting of outside meddling in Afghanistan's internal affairs, and the Soviet contingents will leave the country, since the need for their assistance--which had been asked for--will automatically cease. As regards the safety of crude oil shipments from the Near East and the Persian Gulf to the United States--would they not be far safer, if no war fleets at all were maneuvering on this route? With healthy common sense and cool prudence one could still avert much of what has begun to appear on the international horizon, particularly as a consequence of American aggressiveness. This is also the deep sense of Leonid Brezhnev's message last week, a message addressed to both Soviet voters and to Washington and other Western powers."

Also on 23 February the Slovak agricultural paper ROLNICKE NOVINY carries on page 5 a 500-word commentary by M. Bohacova, entitled "Our Doctrine is Peace: The Soviet Union's Stance," which counterposes the tenor of preelection statements in the United States and in the USSR, quotes Brezhnev on the USSR's ability to defend itself and not to succumb to provocations, and underscores his statement that detente would be maintained by the efforts of the peoples.

On 23 February the same paper carries a 950-word weekly review by the same author, which includes a 300-word passage on Brezhnev's speech and stresses his appeal to all peace-respecting forces to ward off the adventurous doctrines of the policy from the positions of strength.

This appeal is also underscored in a 500-word "Ili"-signed commentary carried by the Slovak paper VECERNIK on 25 February on page 2, which is entitled "The Force of Peaceful Diplomacy" and also points out the contrast between U.S. expansionism and the USSR's selflessness.

The Czech paper VECERNI PRAHA on 25 February carries on page 2 a 500-word commentary by Bohumir Krcek, entitled "We Know the Way." The author calls Brezhnev's speech one "opening the road toward solving the present complicated international situation" and points out the positive response to this speech in the world press. He, too, stresses Brezhnev's words on the action unity and cohesion of the socialist states and states that his words on Afghanistan "should make the imperialist circles adopt realistic stances."

On 25 February LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE, the People's party daily, carries on page 3 a 300-word "(HD)"-signed commentary entitled "Consistent Peace Policy," which underscores Brezhnev's words on socialist unity and on the need of detente and a peaceful policy.

RUDE PRAVO Editorial

AU291313 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 23 Feb 80 p 1 AU

[Editorial: "A Policy of Principle"]

[Text] The speech of L.I. Brezhnev, which we publish in today's issue of RUDE PRAVO, represented the culmination of an important domestic political campaign in the Soviet Union that preceded the Sunday elections to local soviets and to the supreme soviets of union and autonomous republics. For many reasons this campaign attracted considerable international attention. In the campaign's final phase the voters were addressed, one by one, by all leading representatives of the CPSU and the Soviet state. Their speeches were published extensively by the Soviet press.

What does an analysis of those speeches suggest? First of all it offers an all-round idea of a number of issues being solved by the Soviet Union in its domestic policy but also of the Soviet Union's approach to urgent, topical tasks of the present world. L.I. Brezhnev has now reverted with all due urgency, clarity and determination to the most important problems.

In the sphere of domestic policy the CPSU and the Soviet Government are striving to steadily enhance and improve the country's economic strength and, on this basis, the Soviet people's living standards. During the current, 10th Soviet 5-Year Plan, the USSR's production potential will substantially increase: A volume of basic production assets will be put into operation which is equivalent to the one the Soviet Union had at its disposal at the end of the sixties.

The Soviet communists and all people are now focusing their attention on the heretofore untapped potential and on mobilizing inner reserves, all that in the interest of further raising the effectiveness and quality of production. They critically assess the work results and strictly and exactingly evaluate the activity of the mangerial sphere. They assert a style of work that involves an irreconcilable battle against bureaucratism, indifference, slovenly work and lack of responsibility for the entrusted tasks. A further perfection of the system of management of the national economy and an improvement of the practice of planning and of the entire economic mechanism are in the focus of attention. The role of the Soviet system of representation--the soviets--and of the principles of socialist democracy in general are being elaborated and developed in an all-round manner. [paragraph continues]

The efforts for even closer cooperation with the other countries of the socialist community are being intensified; the base of socialist economic integration is being expanded.

All those questions are very close to us. We in Czechoslovakia are solving identical tasks of socialist contruction and are striving, in our own interest, to make the best possible use of all the good, beneficial and tested experiences of our friends. That is why the ideas expressed in the election speeches in the Soviet Union are also very useful for us.

The foreign policy position that has resounded in the last few days from the Soviet preelection rostrums has attracted the keen interest of the broad world public. Let us stress it--preelection rostrums. After all, a preelection atmosphere is also reaching us from the United States, especially in the speeches of President Carter. How different, how absolutely incomparable, however, are the spirit and the tone of those election campaigns!

The Government of the United States is trying to deal with the Soviet Union from a position of strength and is orienting itself toward undermining the process of detente and aggravating the international situation.

Under those conditions of a changed situation the world is posing the question: How will the Soviet Union react? Will the Soviet Union pay the United States back in its own coin?

The answer was given in the preelection speeches of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and other Soviet representatives. Moscow responds with calm assurance and prudence to the irritated, nervous and hysterical clamour from Washington, which resembles a crusade. The Soviet representatives reply: We do not let ourselves be provoked, just as in the past we speak out in favor of the relaxation of international tension. The Soviet Union's policy of detente does not mean temporary tactics or "propaganda." Detente is a strategy of peace, a principle, a general line. It is an effort to overcome the mistrust and hostility of the "cold war" period and to settle conflicts and disputes not by force or threats but solely and exclusively by peaceful means, at the negotiating table.

Such is the unequivocal Soviet position.

The balance sheet Comrade Brezhnev and other members of the Soviet leadership could now present to their voters is very convincing. In the past years the Soviet Union--hand in hand with other socialist countries and peace-loving forces--has exerted great efforts to steadily develop relaxation of international tension and to make that process irreversible. The main result of the purposefully developed peace and antiwar policy has been that mankind succeeded in breaking the tragic cycle "world war--a short period of peace--a new world war." The practice of international relations has confirmed the justification and the effectiveness of the CPSU's foreign policy line, particularly of the political line of the 24th and 25th CPSU congresses.

There is another, quite opposite trend in present international relations, with interests of the U.S. military-industrial complex, the Pentagon and NATO in its background: a trend striving to curb the upswing of the national liberation and revolutionary movements, which are developing in the favorable conditions of detente, and--above all--to halt the process of detente as such. That has been the main feature of American policy since President Carter took office. It is a policy that foisted on the NATO countries increased military budgets and new American nuclear medium-range weapons and which has now used the Soviet aid to the Afghan revolution as a pretext for stepping up the attacks on detente.

The Soviet representatives' speeches, which reacted to this dangerous development, manifested the Soviet Union's determination to do everything possible to prevent the new Trumans and Dulleses from driving the world back to cold war and burying detente. Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said: "Against the 'doctrine' of war hysteria and feverish armament we set the doctrine of the consistent struggle or peace and security in the world." The Soviet Union is convinced that detente is the order of the day and that the international reaction will not succeed in thwarting it.

The principle of equal security of the Soviet Union and the United States, of the countries of the Warsaw Pact and NATO, is one of the fundamental principles of international relations. The American Government is now making moves in the NATO camp to change the existing, approximate military parity in its favor, to the detriment of the states of the socialist community.

The Soviet Union has declared more than once that it will not allow the existing balance of power to be upset. The American President Carter knows that very well; L.I. Brezhnev spoke about it quite clearly and openly in Vienna last year. Two months before the NATO meeting in Brussels the Soviet representative pointed that out again in his famous speech in Berlin, in which he countered the U.S. attempts to foist on Western Europe new nuclear devices with the proposal to negotiate about the limitation of those devices in the whole of Europe. Deplorably, there has not been any favorable reaction yet to this voice of reason.

Yesterday, L.I. Brezhnev unambiguously responded to this fact: The Soviet Union will strengthen its defense capability to be able at all times to reliably protect the peaceful work of the Soviet people and of the people of other socialist countries. The leading CPSU representatives convincingly demonstrated in their election speeches that even in the present complicated international situation they each retained a sober and calm head and did not let themselves be provoked by the American Government to "tough responses." That is not weakness, it is strength. It is the firm faith in the Soviet Union's ability to resolutely defend its interests, the interests of its allies and the interests of world socialism. It is the firm faith in the action unity of all countries of the socialist community in defending the great values of socialism.

"We are faithful to the program of peace outlined by the 24th and the 25th congresses of our party," Comrade Brezhnev said in the Kremlin yesterday. "That is why we now, in the eighties--just as we did in the seventies--strive to deepen the process of detente and not to destroy it. We consistently carry on the Leninist foreign policy and defend the banner of peace, freedom and independence of nations, the banner of social progress."

The Soviet peace policy is a consistent, frank and unchanging policy that is not subject to opportunistic fluctuations. It is a policy of principle.

It is a policy fully supported by the socialist countries, including the people of our republic who with warm sympathy and approval identify themselves with the Soviet peace efforts, and with the standpoints expressed in the speeches of L.I. Brezhnev and other Soviet representatives.

It is a policy which even in difficult and restless times remains the hope and certainty of peace-loving mankind.

U.S., Soviet Policies Contrasted

AU291455 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 25 Feb 80 p 1 AU

[Editorial: "Our Joint Reply"]

[Text] At a time when in his speeches and measures aimed against the Soviet Union the U.S. President considers the reemployment of the instruments of the cold war as useful and defensible, there resounds with impressive determination, consistency and calmness the voice of the Soviet Union with its actions for the benefit of the continuation and deepening of the policy of relaxation of international tension and expansion of cooperation among countries with different social systems.

This fact emerges with special clarity from the speeches of leading representatives of the CPSU and the Soviet State delivered last week within the framework of the election campaign for local soviets and the supreme soviets of the federal and autonomous republics. Leonid Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet chairman, whose speech on Friday culminated the election meetings, emphasized: "No one will succeed in intimidating the Soviet Union. We have immense strength and potential. We and our allies will always be able to defend ourselves and beat back any enemy attack. No one will succeed in provoking us. Against the 'doctrine' of war hysteria and feverish armament we set the doctrine of consistent struggle for peace and security in the world. We remain faithful to the peace program determined at our party's 24th and 25th congresses. Therefore now in the eighties, just as in the preceding seventies, we are working for the deepening of the detente process and not for its destruction. We are in favor of closeness and mutual understanding among nations, not for artificial estrangement and hostility."

The attention of the world's public has been focused on the speeches of the highest Soviet representatives and rightly so. At a time when President Carter and his closest associates are trying to manipulate public opinion and the policies of Western countries with disturbing statements and steps inducing a reduced level of thinking, foisting upon them anti-Soviet hysteria as a smokescreen for concealing an attempt to change the correlation of forces in favor of imperialism, the calm and unequivocal Soviet position has a claming and convincing effect.

As has been the case so many times in the past, this Soviet position proves the propaganda outcry about the so-called Soviet "aggressiveness" to be untruthful. Again it clearly shows the consistency of the Soviet Union's peace policy, and the fact that for the Soviet Union the policy of the relaxation of international tension and extending detente to the military sphere by halting the armament fever and accepting concrete disarmament measures is not some kind of short-term tactics, but an unwavering strategy aimed at building a firm system of peaceful international cooperation.

The contrast between the principled Soviet policy and the adventurist maneuvering of the Carter administration--particularly in the past weeks--has become so marked that it is having an increasing influence on the thinking and decisionmaking of the West's leading political circles. The dissatisfaction with current U.S. foreign policy among the public and the governments of the Western allies of the United States has been palpably increasing. It is no coincidence that the Western press is reporting that, in the eyes of the leading representatives of the West European countries, when it comes to a comparison between the principled Soviet policy and Washington's unreliability and unpredictability, Carter and his men are coming off worse and worse.

The past decade, a decade of relaxation of international tension, has left its indelible mark on the world, particularly in Europe, where detente and its results have been manifested and anchored best and most convincingly. The nations have no intention of giving up its advantages just because American policy has taken an unfavorable turn. Detente has benefited our entire continent to a significant extent, all nations included, regardless of whether or not they belong to military-political groupings. People here have become used to living more tranquilly, without the constant fear of crises in international relations and of war conflicts. The overwhelming majority refuse to let themselves be maneuvered into new crises or conflict situations. They are--justifiably--asking themselves what could have happened that there is now talk about the end of detente and a return to the cold war.

The Soviet representatives have provided clear and specific answers to these questions. As Leonid Brezhnev said, they have plainly shown that the present U.S. leadership is orienting itself toward undermining the process of detente and aggravating the international situation, and that it is attempting to impose its will on the socialist states and on other countries. Strength alone, and only the sensible policy of peace-loving states, as well as the people's resolve to frustrate the dangerous plans of those claiming the right to world domination, can halt this aggressiveness.

The Soviet Union, and together with it the countries of the socialist community, are defending the vital interests of the people of our entire continent, of the whole world; and they are appealing to the peoples throughout the world for cooperation in this noble cause. The urgency of this appeal at the present historical moment is becoming increasingly manifest. The resolve of the socialist countries to continue the policy of detente must find a corresponding political response in the Western countries. Surely it must be obvious to everyone that this continuity cannot be insured by one side alone, that a corresponding effort of both sides is needed for this.

So far this effort has been lacking on the part of the U.S. Government and of certain other influential circles in the West. The endeavors of those who in the past had erected all kinds of obstacles in the path of the Helsinki Conference have been coming to the fore. Those who, after the Helsinki Conference--which for them was "a dangerous expression of the codification of the policy of detente"--were resolved to use all means possible to prevent the process of detente from spreading to the military sphere and from becoming permanent and irreversible.

These circles had never given up the idea that they could once again attempt to change the correlation of forces in favor of imperialism, at least to the extent that, by increasing the scope of their military means, they could influence the policy of socialist states by a form of pressure. Apart from other things, by this pressure they wanted to force the countries of the socialist community to give up supporting the national liberation movements, to give up the close cooperation with the developing countries, thus enabling imperialism to revert to the fullest extent to the policy of military interventions so as to maintain and expand its influence in developing countries.

Self-evidently, this policy is doomed to fail. True, it may complicate the peoples' life. It can make them invest resources in new weapon systems, resources needed elsewhere; it can produce tension and conflict situations, but the experience of past years has absolutely convinced us that imperialism can no longer reverse the correlation of forces in its own favor and that it cannot gain military supremacy. To every step it takes in this direction there exist, and will always exist, countermeasures that will make these endeavors impossible.

It is sufficient to note the consistent course of history in this revolutionary century, as well as the striking changes in the last decade. It is not socialism that is losing ground. Quite the contrary. If certain, still influential, circles in the West have come to the conclusion that the detente is limiting their influence and eroding it, this does not mean that a return to cold war policy would strengthen their influence. Past experience enables us to presume that this turn would speed up even more the disintegration of the imperialist positions. Of course, it would do this in an atmosphere of dangerous crises and threatening conflicts.

The pronouncements of Soviet representatives have left no one in any doubt that threats are the least suitable method for talking to the Soviet Union. To the enthusiastic approval of his listeners, Leonid Brezhnev stated that the unity of the Soviet people is manifested in a particularly striking way whenever somebody tries to talk to them in the language of threats. He stressed that the unity of the Soviet people is the firm basis of the strength of the socialist state.

This unity is of key significance for the entire socialist community, for the future of peaceful cooperation in Europe and in the world. Leonid Brezhnev recalled that the cooperation of the countries of the socialist community is a powerful propellent of the advance of every fraternal country. It is also our common guarantee of constant progress in these complicated and troubled times. The CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium then stressed that now, when the forces of imperialism have started a counterattack against international detente, against peace and against the peoples' rights, the action unity of socialist countries in the defense of these great values is more important than ever.

Leonid Brezhnev underscored his conviction that the Soviet Union would accomplish its historical task in a dignified way. This task is the historical task of the entire socialist community, of our fraternal parties, states and peoples, of all working people, of each and every one of us. It signifies our common dignity, our common honor, our common duty both at this moment of history, and in the future for which we are fighting.

Western European Response Viewed

LD291400 Prague CTK in English 0937 GMT 26 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Prague--The election speech of Leonid Brezhnev opens the road towards detente, wished by all Europe, and provides for talks on the settlement of the current international problems, RUDE PRAVO wrote today.

The daily said that Brezhnev's speech attracted attention not only in the socialist countries, but also in Western Europe, particularly the part referring to Afghanistan, for it corresponded with responsible West European politicians' ideas on the settlement of the situation in the area. It became clear that West European peoples as well as politicians are interested in overcoming the current international tension, in continuing the policy of detente and that they do not sign Carter's course of action on the dotted line, the paper said.

West European politicians are afraid that if U.S. ruling circles attempted to further escalate the tension between the U.S. and the USSR, it would be difficult to prevent the tension from spreading to the European Continent and they are fully aware that none of the political or economic problems of the present world can be settled by sharpening differences between the capitalist states and the states of the socialist community, the daily stressed.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES JOINT SESSION APPRAISES BREZHNEV SPEECH

LD291358 Prague CTK in English 1900 GMT 26 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Prague--The realistic and high-principled evaluation of the present international situation by Soviet Communist Party General Secretary and President Leonid Brezhnev was highly appreciated at a joint session of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly House of the People and House of Nations Foreign Relations committees here on Tuesday.

The deputies stressed that Leonid Brezhnev's address, delivered at the election rally in Moscow, corresponds with peace interests and efforts of the whole progressive world for the maintainance of peace and security and has their full support.

JAKES RECEIVES AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY OFFICIAL FOR TALKS

LD292050 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Milos Jakes, candidate of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, received in Prague Franz Hager, member of the Politburo and the head of the economic policy department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria, who is in our country at the head of a study delegation. In a comradely atmosphere the two representatives exchanged experiences of their parties, above all from the viewpoint of their respective agricultural policies.

COLOTKA VISITS SLOVAK GAS EXTRACTION ENTERPRISE

LD291536 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1130 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Peter Colotka, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and Slovak premier, arrived today on a working visit to the gas extraction and underground storage enterprise of Lab, located at Plavecky Stvrtok. Representatives of the Bratislava oil and gas industry briefed him on the current situation and prospects of gas extraction in the Small Carpathians' foothills area and in the whole of Slovakia, as well as on possibilities of its storage. Comrade Colotka is accompanied by Ignac Janak, member of the CPSL Central Committee Presidium and chief secretary of the West Slovak party regional committee.

BRIEFS

FORESTRY PROBLEMS--The session of the CPSL Central Slovak Regional Central Committee devoted to forestry, which was held in Banska Bystrica on 22 February, noted--among other things--that "difficulties with afforestation continue" in the region since the losses at forest plantations run at about 40 percent and the losses caused to young trees by animals alone amount to Kcs6 million annually. [Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 23 Feb 80 p 2 AU]

SOWING IN CENTRAL SLOVAKIA--In the Central Slovak Region this year, spring barley and spring wheat will be sown on about 38,000 hectares, corn on 9,000 hectares and legumes on 9,500 hectares. [Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak 26 Feb 80 p 1 AU]

SKODA CARS EXPORT--The Czechoslovak Motokov foreign trade organization exports the Skoda 105/120 passenger car to 30 countries. Cars destined for Ireland, New Zealand and the new assembly plant in San Jose, Costa Rica, are sent unassembled. [Bratislava SMENA in Slovak 22 Feb 80 p 2 AU]

MEDIA COMMENTS ON BREZHNEV 22 FEBRUARY SPEECH, REACTION

Press Coverage

AU291920 [Editorial Report AU] The GDR's newspapers offer various commentaries on the 22 February election speech by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the text of Brezhnev's speech is published by NEUES DEUTSCHLAND on 23-24 February on page 3.

On 26 February the East Berlin NEUE ZEIT on page 2 in a 500-word commentary by "K.E.", entitled "On a Consistent Peace Course," quotes that passage from Brezhnev's speech in which he announces the USSR's readiness to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan as soon as all foreign interference ceases. The commentator notes that the Soviet Union will not let itself be intimidated by anybody and will consistently continue the struggle for peace and security.

In an 800-word commentary entitled "A Doctrine of Calmness and Commonsense" published in BERLINER ZEITUNG on 25 February on page 2, Klaus Wilczynski compares the U.S policy of military threats with the Soviet peace policy which the USSR also intends to pursue in the eighties.

East Berlin DER MORGEN on 27 February on page 1 carries a 750-word Wulf Oehme commentary entitled "Exclamation Mark After Commonsense." The commentator stresses the calm and sobermindedness of the leading USSR personalities and notes that it can be seen "that in poisoning the international atmosphere Washington alone holds the buck that people would so gladly pass on to Moscow by pointing to the events in Afghanistan" and quotes Brezhnev on the USSR's readiness to withdraw its troops once the United States and Afghanistan's neighbors guarantee the cessation of all outside interference.

Western Reaction Divided

LD291532 East Berlin Voice of the GDR Domestic Service in German 1705 GMT 27 Feb 80 LD

[Albert Reisz commentary]

[Text] Imagine that Leonid Brezhnev at his electior meeting on Friday had said something like this: The Soviet Union sees the Gulf of Mexico as a region in which it has a vital interest and will, if need be, safeguard its interests with military force. It calls on the United States to lift the blockade of Cuba, which has been in existence since 1962, failing which it will call on the world to break off all sporting relations with the United States. Anyone in the capitalist countries--notably in the European community and Japan--not obeying this call must expect Soviet industrial orders to be canceled and new orders not to be placed. The resulting rise in unemployment would be a matter for the governments concerned.

The game could be taken a stage further: Imagine an adviser to Brezhnev who allows himself to be photographed at the Soviet-Turkish border with a machinegun in his hand. On television he shows Soviet Armenians the country over their border and tells them, "That is your country." No doubt all hell would be let loose in the West.

Well, Leonid Brezhnev did not say that. But James Carter, in a message to Congress, stated that the United States has a vital interest in the Persian Gulf which it would safeguard with military force. The presidential security adviser who creates so much insecurity, Zbigniew Brzezinski, waved a machinegun in front of photographers at the Khyber Pass on the Pakistan-Afghan border and, pointing to Afghanistan, told counter-revolutionaries, "That is your country."

One could go on. These things are well known. Two attitudes are diametrically opposed: the often unpredictable way in which the U.S. President and his government handle world politics--the accusation of unpredictability was leveled at Carter by a Western politician who left no doubt as to his solidarity with the United States--the playing up of tensions and, on the other hand, the calm restraint and levelheadedness with which the CPSU general secretary deals with the most explosive issues of our days and proposes solutions. To say that the United States has interfered and is interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan is not an attack on it but a statement of fact. For, basically, the facts are also being acknowledged by West European foreign ministers, albeit tortuously; and they know what they are talking about. It is not for nothing that the French Government refused to agree to a planned and sought-after meeting of foreign ministers from the United States, Great Britain, the FRG, Italy and France.

The reactions to and statements on Leonid Brezhnev's speech do, of course, differ; they display varying nuances. But on one thing nearly everyone in the Western countries agrees: that the speech is extremely important. I said "nearly everyone" because here, too, the United States is a disruptive outsider. Clearly it does not suit it at all that Leonid Brezhnev spoke at all about the possible withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. It is correct, as he said, that the United States is doing everything to prevent the conditions for it being created. Of course, all this will not be done on American terms. The presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan is an affair which exclusively concerns two governments, those of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

Is there some progress? It is striking that following Brezhnev's speech comments were heard from West European government circles such as: The speech has set people thinking. This is worth noting, for it surely implies a certain disinclination to return to the cold war. On the other hand, illusions are misplaced, for the U.S. administration has recently clearly shown that it does not shy at using the severest pressure and coercion as the main instrument of its policy, above all against its own allies.

Clarification of 'Neutralization' Necessary

LD011400 East Berlin Voice of the GDR Domestic Service in German 1205 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[From the "International Information" program presented by Guenter Leuschner]

[Text] A listener from Halle writes: In his speech to Moscow voters, Leonid Brezhnev once again made it clear that the contingent of Soviet troops will be withdrawn from Afghanistan as soon as the external interference is stopped. Nevertheless, Western media are now saying that it is first necessary to establish what the Soviet Union means by this, and are talking about plans of their own for the neutralization of Afghanistan. What is meant by this term?

As far as the first part of your question is concerned, one has the feeling that some Western politicians are beginning to sense the extent to which they have become the victims of their own propaganda. When the Soviet Union sent troops to Afghanistan 2 months ago at the request of the Afghan Government and explained the precise reasons for this step, including its temporary nature, next to no importance was attached in the West to these motives and the limited nature of this military aid, which was explained at length. A completely legitimate step to aid the government of this country at its express request was turned into an invasion, an attack, simply in order to stir up anticommunist hysteria.

Since then some Western politicians at least have begun to realize where this can lead to. There are some signs of more sober views prevailing, naturally less in the United States than elsewhere; in some political circles attempts are being made to find a way out. Thus facts are gradually being rediscovered which were available 2 months ago, but which they did not want to acknowledge at that time.

It was as early as the end of December 1979, and not in Leonid Brezhenv's recent speech, that the Soviet Government first declared categorically that the Soviet troops would be withdrawn as soon as all forms of external interference directed against the government and people of Afghanistan were halted. At that time the Soviet Union thus made it quite clear that it had no intention of turning Afghanistan into a Soviet military base, following the example of the United States, which has hundreds of such military bases abroad. It is self-evident that the date for this troop withdrawal must depend on those who are controlling the counterrevolutionary activities from outside, and thus not least on the United States. I cannot see that anything remains unclear here or that there is anything which needs particular clarification.

As for the question of the so-called neutralization of Afghanistan, which one sometimes hears talk of in the West, it seems to me that there is far greater need for clarification of what is meant by this. Afghanistan is already a neutral nonalined country, and its government has stressed on several occasions in the past few weeks that it has no intention of altering its course in any way. The West could naturally do something to strengthen the independence and nonalined nature of Afghanistan, but that again amounts to first and foremost halting external interference directed against Afghanistan. In this connection Leonid Brezhnev expressed the interesting idea in the speech you mention that the United States should guarantee this noninterference together with Afghanistan's neighbors. Such a guarantee would doubtless strengthen Afghanistan's sovereignty and neutrality.

From some remarks by Western politicians on the so-called neutralization of Afghanistan one gets the impression, however, that they are more concerned with neutralizing the present Afghan Government in the sense of eliminating it and replacing it by one which is closer to Western ideas. But that means that the abortive counterrevolutionary attempts to overthrow the government would be recognized ex post facto by diplomatic means. This could also be described as a legalization of interference. So it certainly remains to be clarified what is meant by neutrality or neutralization.

Western 'Hawks' Seek Confrontation

LD291536 East Berlin Voice of the GDR Domestic Service in German 1705 GMT 25 Feb 80 LD

[Rolf Schick commentary]

[Excerpts] The Lake Placid Olympics in the real and artificial snow are over. For us and for the Soviet Union, they were very successful. After this competition we can feel justifiable pleasure in the successes of our young people. We also cannot complain about a lack of fairness. On the whole this fairness existed among the athletes and the Lake Placid public, which applauded all winners equally, regardless of under which flag they took part.

There is no doubt that among some of the hawks who had been in training for a world record in non-Olympic hopes and expectations, who had hoped for provocations and confrontations, these games did not leave them with feelings of joy and satisfaction. Bad luck; but lucky for the Olympics, in the untroubled development of which obviously not only the sportsmen from the very successful socialist states are interested.

FRG National Olympic Committee Chairman Daume has said that politics also have an Olympic responsibility to establish a climate in which the Olympics can prosper peacefully and give peaceful impetus to events affecting the world and the relations between states; a climate which does not need a NATO long-term arms program or new U.S. missiles in West Europe, nor the muscle-flexing of the planners of U.S. world domination. As has been again emphasized by none other than Leonid Brezhnev, this climate needs the decisive struggle by all to whom peace is dear and necessary in order to give a rebuff to the unholy plans of those new prophets of the policy of strength.

These new prophets, for instance, loudly demand the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, and continue at the same time their interference in this country's internal affairs. Moreover, they step up their interference by arms deliveries and by the deployment of armed gangs, some of which are commanded by officers of the U.S. secret service.

As Leonid Brezhnev said, this means that they are doing nearly everything in order to further postpone the possibility of a withdrawal of the Soviet troops. In brief, they behave like terrorists, and they try to take athletes hostage for their shameful policy of threats and blackmail in order to destroy the Olympics if their demands are not met.

It would undoubtedly be better for West Europe and other regions of the world to talk in the 1980's about rapprochement among nations, and not about artificial estrangement and hostilities. As Leonid Brezhnev has again said clearly: The Soviet Union wants and will, as in the 1970's, adhere to its constructive policy, and work for a climate of the strengthening of detente and not for the destruction of detente; for a climate which is favorable for all and for everything, and also for the Olympics, which will take place as planned in Moscow in 1980.

PLAN FOR CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION SIGNED WITH SFRY

LD292022 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1746 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Berlin--A plan for cultural and scientific cooperation between the governments of the GDR and Yugoslavia for the 1980-82 period was signed in Berlin today. Bernhard Neugebauer, GDR deputy foreign minister, and Dr Milan Milutinovic, secretary for education and science of the Serbian Socialist Republic, signed the document.

Both sides declared that the cultural and scientific cooperation which has become a firm and important part of relations between the GDR and the SFRY had been further deepened and developed.

PROBLEMS WITH U.S. AFGHAN STANCE, VANCE'S TRIP ANALYZED

LD291444 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0710 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Washington is trying, by various means, to win over its allies to its policy of strength and anti-Soviet hysteria. Secretary of State Vance had this mission during his visits to a few West European capitals. Ivan Lipovecz reports from Bonn on the degree of success he has had:

There is a word in West German political jargon, "mitbestimmung," or joint decision, and this is the right of the representatives of the workers in the boards of directors of the larger enterprises. Well, the FRG is trying to achieve some sort of mitbestimmung in a large political enterprise--the North Atlantic alliance. We are not satellites, we are allies, Willy Brandt declared in Stuttgart on Thursday. Let no one prescribe to us what to do. Let us discuss it together.

Looking at the events through Bonn's eyes, one may think that this is what happened during the week. Foreign Minister Genscher and, a few hours later, Chancellor Schmidt spoke to foreign correspondents and expressed satisfaction with the talks with U.S. Secretary of State Vance. The pro-Atlantic newspapers happily reported the next day that a joint Western concept had been formulated in substance. However, it was enough to take a glance at the television screen to see the resigned expression on Vance's face in Paris to realize: This concept is not final and far from being a joint one. Washington and Bonn may have reached an agreement but this is without the consent of Paris.

What is this all about? Of course, it is about the reply to be given to the USSR concerning Afghanistan. No one now talks about a rebuke, and even less a punishment. In Bonn this is regarded as a great achievement, with the earlier American terminology now eliminated. At present the talks are about the joint concept. Part of this is perhaps the West European proposal made in Rome for the neutralization of Afghanistan--on the model of Austria--just as other parts concern the boycott of the Olympics or trade discrimination. The stress is laid, at least here in Bonn, on the coordination of standpoints.

We are compelled to declare our solidarity with the United States, the West Germans say, but this cannot mean that we are yes-men. Although this solidarity, according to Chancellor Schmidt, can have no limitations, which Theo Sommer expressed in this week's issue of DIE ZEIT as FRG backing for Washington on all issues in the worst situation, Bonn would like to obtain at least relative independence in this partnership.

OFFICIAL BLAMES U.S. FOR INTENSIFICATION OF TENSIONS

LD011902 Budapest MTI in English 1715 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Budapest, March 1 (MTI)--There are more and more signs which show that the politicians and--because of the effect of the social forces--governments as well in an increasing number of West European countries are forming a more realistic opinion of the driving forces and regularities of the international situation. This [word indistinct] strengthening tendency, the statements of the representatives of the capitalist countries participating at the bilateral and multilateral meetings underline: The states of West Europe are also interested in maintaining peace, detente. All this was proven by the debates of the recently ended Hungarian-Italian forum, the statements of the participating Italian politicians--pointed out Anna Papp, secretary of the Hungarian National Committee of the European Security and Cooperation, in her statement given to MTI.

Anna Papp called attention to the fact that today it is beyond doubt in most of the capitalist countries of Europe: The reasons of the international political tension's intensification have to be sought in the world-wide loss of position of the United States, which began with the failure of the Vietnamese aggression. The American leading circles tried to take revenge on the Soviet Union for the objective processes of national independence, progress.... They did this with their subjective and above all incalculably uncertain foreign policy, and by the war hysteria they caused in connection with this. The plan for the deployment in West Europe of medium-range missiles also belonged to this trend. However, already at the December NATO decision it became apparent that the conceptions of the capitalist countries of Europe, based on their actual interests, do not completely coincide with the verdict forcing the never wave [as received] of armaments.

"Of course it is much more difficult to hold talks today in the shadow of the December 12 decision of NATO", said Anna Papp. "It is much more complicated than had this armaments decision not been made, or at least if it had been postponed. The Soviet Union, however, has declared even in such a situation that it is ready to negotiate in case of suitable conditions. It is obvious that endeavours have to be made in this direction. If the countries of Europe analyze realistically the present situation and the perspectives, then they can make such initiatives which promote the improvement of the relations of the two large powers", emphasized Anna Papp, and pointed out in the following that the Hungarian National Committtee of the European Security and Cooperation--together with other national committees--with the wide-range making aware of this responsibility is making efforts for the successful preparation of the Madrid meeting.

In the coming months the Hungarian National Committee, in accordance with its traditions, together with other social organizations will arrange such actions which serve the strengthening of the attained results of European security and cooperation, and in proportion with its strength wishes to promote as successful as possible the work of the international Committee of European Security and Cooperation.

TUDEH PARTY CRITICISM OF IRANIAN ELECTIONS REPORTED

LD021048 Budapest MTI in English 0605 GMT 2 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Budapest, March 1 (MTI)--Istvan Ambrua, MTI's special correspondent, reports from Tehran:

The Saturday Tehran press--with the exception of the Islamic Republic Party's paper--received the decision that the parliamentary elections will be held in a system of two rounds with little enthusiasm. This election system undoubtedly favours the Islamic Republic Party which has the largest number of candidates and the strongest power base in the provinces and poses further disadvantages on the otherwise weaker other political groups and national minorities.

The Islamic Republic Party has put more candidates on the ticket in the precincts who can step down in the second round in favour of their colleague who has received the most votes. The members of the party's "propaganda machine", the [word indistinct] will include in their joint weekly sermons, delivered in the centres of the social-political life of the province in the mosques on Friday, the name of that person who has to be elected by the believers, not to mention that practically unlimited possibility for manipulation that the provincial population, for the most part illiterate, will be forced to decide and signal on whom it wishes to vote with the "assistance" and active participation of their priests, the mullahs who are seated in the lines of the voting-committee.

Realizing the dangers of this situation the communist Tudeh Party was the first to raise its voice against the two-round elections. The mojahedin guerrilla organization also formed a similar standpoint, then the National Front and a number of other political groups, as well as even the president of the republic, Bani-Sadr.

FOREIGN MINISTER PUJA ARRIVES IN NEW DELHI

LD291832 Budapest MTI in English 1703 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Budapest, February 29 (MTI)--Hungarian Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja arrives on Friday in New Delhi for an official visit. The leader of Hungarian diplomacy is meeting an invitation by Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao.

JAPANESE CP CHAIRMAN RECEIVES BERECZ, MSZMP DELEGATION

LD031124 Budapest MTI in English 0600 GMT 3 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Budapest, March 2 (MTI)--MTI reports from Tokyo:

Miyamoto Kenji, chairman of the Communist Party of Japan, Sunday received the delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party including Janos Berecz, head of the HSWP CC Foreign Affairs Department, and Karoly Kovacs, co-worker of the Foreign Affairs Department, who had attended the 15th Congress of the Communist Party of Japan. At the meeting held in a cordial, comradely atmosphere at the CPJ headquarters in Tokyo, Miyamoto Kenji and Janos Bercecz exchanged views on topical international questions and the two parties' contacts. Present were Fuwa Tetsuzo, secretary general of the CPJ CC; Nishizawa Tomio, vice-president of the CC Presidium; Tatsiki Hiroshi, head of the CC Foreign Affairs Department, member to the Presidium; and Peter Kos, ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic to Tokyo.

OFFICIALS ATTEND COUNTY PARTY MEETINGS 1-2 MARCH

Opening of Meetings

LD022242 Budapest MTI in English 1714 GMT 2 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Budapest, March 1 (MTI)--As already reported briefly, in the framework of preparations for the forthcoming HSWP congress a series of county party meetings commenced on Saturday. Communists of 10 counties met in sessions for deliberations.

Party conferences in counties Bekes, Csongrad, Komarom and Tolna concluded work on Saturday, while party sessions in counties Bacs-Kiskun, Fejer, Hajdu-Bihar, Nograd, Pest and Veszprem will continue on Sunday. The Komarom county party conference was addressed by Jeno Fock, member of the HSWP Political Committee. Pal Mokri, first secretary of the county party committee, made supplementary remarks to a written report presented to the session.

The Csongrad County party conference was addressed by Antal Apro, member of the HSWP Political Committee and president of the National Assembly. Also present was Gyula Szeker, member of the HSWP Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers. Dr. Mihaly Komocsin, first secretary of the party county committee, made verbal additions to a report presented in writing to the session.

The Tolna County party conference was attended and addressed by Istvan Sarlos, member of the HSWP Political Committee and general secretary of the National Council of the Patriotic People's Front. Jozsef K. Papp, first secretary of the county party committee, made supplementary remarks to a written report presented to the conference. The Bekes County party conference was addressed by Dr. Mihaly Korom, secretary of the HSWP Central Committee. Ferenc Frank, first secretary of the county party committee, made supplementary remarks to a written report presented to the session. County party committees were elected at these meetings. Pal Mokri (Komarom), Dr. Mihaly Komocsin (Csongrad), Jozsef K. Papp (Tolna) and Ferenc Frank (Bekes) were elected first secretaries of their respective county party committees.

Gaspar at Pest County

LD011714 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[Summary] Party delegates in 10 counties, as well as from the Ministry of Interior and the People's Army, met in conference this morning. They are assessing the work done since the 11th congress and evaluating the experiences which can help solve problems in the future. They will discuss the reports of party committees and will express their opinion in the congress guidelines. At the party conferences the members of party committees and the congress delegates are elected.

The conference of Pest County is being held in Godollo. "The Presidium includes Sandor Gaspar, member of the Politburo and secretary general of the National Trade Union Council, and several members of the Central Committee." In a written report and verbal additions by Mrs Ferenc Cservenka, first secretary of the county party committee, the delegates have been briefed on the political, economic and social life of the country.

Closing of Meetings

LD031128 Budapest MTI in English 1025 GMT 3 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Budapest, March 2 (MTI)--The party meetings in the counties of Bacs-Kiskun, Fejer, Hajdu-Bihar, Nograd, Pest and Veszprem as well as in the People's Army came to an end on Sunday. The conferences were attended and addressed by leading figures of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Central Committee, including Milos Ovari, member of the HWSP Political Committee, secretary of the Central Committee; Sandor Gaspar and Laszlo Marothy, members of the HSWP Political Committee; Ferenc Havasi, Sandor Borbely and Imre Gyori, secretaries of the Central Committee.

In these forums, too, the communist delegates made constructive contributors to preparing the HSWP 12th Congress. The numerous speeches made and the resolutions adopted reflected unambiguous trust for the party's policy pursued successfully for more than two decades now, and request the congress to confirm it. The country party committees and the congressional deputies were elected at the party meetings.

Re-elected were Istvan Horvath, first secretary of the party committee of County Bacs-Kiskun; Imre Takacs, first secretary of the party committee of County Fejer; Gyorgy Sikula, first secretary of the party committee of County Hajdu-Bihar; Janos Geczi, first secretary of the party committee of County Nograd; Mrs. Ferenc Cservenka, first secretary of the party committee of County Pest; and Janos Papp, first secretary of the party committee of County Veszprem.

PZPR ORGAN VIEWS IMPLICATIONS OF BREZHNEV SPEECH

AU291312 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 23-24 Feb 80 p 2 AU

[Zbigniew Lesnikowski article: "Loyalty to Peace Program"; capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] THE EVALUATION OF THE ROAD TRAVERSED IN THE SEVENTIES AND THE ANALYSIS OF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN THE USSR AND THE WORLD AS WELL AS THE MAPPING OUT OF FURTHER ACTION LINES FOR THE IMMEDIATE AND THE MORE DISTANT FUTURE--THESE WERE THE BASIC FEATURES OF THE SPEECH MADE BY COMRADE LEONID BREZHNEV, CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GENERAL SECRETARY AND CHAIRMAN OF THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM, AT HIS FRIDAY MEETING WITH MOSCOW VOTERS. Let us add that meeting was awaited with great interest and that it was the most important moment of the campaign in connection with the Sunday elections to the Supreme Soviets of the union and autonomous republics and to the local Soviets of people's deputies.

THE SPEECH DESERVES UTMOST ATTENTION. There is no doubt that, in particular, the part of the speech in which the creator of the USSR's present peace policy evaluated the main international problems at present is the subject of detailed analyses and study through the world. It is a realistic and principled evaluation, one that contains crucial factors consistent with the current requirements of life, which, as we know, does not stand still. That is why the importance of the speech results not only from its contents, but also from the timing of its delivery and from its tone, which was firm as well as calm and most meaningful--in glaring contrast to the anti-Soviet hue and cry raised in the West, especially in the United States, by politicians who represent the moods that vividly remind us of cold war years. THE VOICE FROM MOSCOW, WHICH IS SERIOUS IN TONE, IS OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE JUST NOW WHEN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION IS BEING CHARACTERIZED BY A GREATER LACK OF STABILITY THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

Analyzing the most recent features of the militancy of the antidetente forces, Leonid Brezhnev recalled recent events: Beginning with the NATO session that decided to increase military budgets and deploy missiles in Western Europe through the establishment of new U.S. bases, the difficulties of the SALT II debates and the most recent anti-Soviet campaign in connection with the Afghan situation, a campaign that--in the Soviet leader's words--has probably beaten all previous records.

We note the speech's critical evaluation of the conduct of Washington, which "SIMPLY NEEDS A PRETEXT FOR EXTENDING ITS EXPANSION IN ASIA AND WHICH IS CREATING THAT PRETEXT BY EVERY MEANS POSSIBLE." Within that context Leonid Brezhnev stressed a number of important elements that determine the events in Afghanistan.

First, he recalled, three successive Afghan Governments have appealed to the USSR for assistance to defend the country against the invasion from the outside by counterrevolutionary forces.

Second, the intervention directed from Pakistan by the Americans and the Chinese constitutes a serious threat to the Afghan revolution and to the security of the Soviet southern border.

Third, the Afghan Government fully respects the population's religious beliefs, and that is why all appeals to "defend Islam" are baseless.

Fourth, Leonid Brezhnev stated most resolutely: "WE WILL BE READY TO WITHDRAW OUR TROOPS AS SOON AS ALL FORMS OF OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE AGAINST THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE ARE COMPLETELY HALTED. LET THE UNITED STATES AND AFGHANISTAN'S NEIGHBORS GUARANTEE THAT, AND THE NEED FOR SOVIET MILITARY ASSISTANCE WILL CEASE."

Let us note that this is not the first time that the Soviet leader has warned against aggravating the international situation, at the same time pointing with optimism to the strength of the structures of peace and to the existence of the fundamental factor in international life, namely the policy of the socialist community countries and their common struggle to promote detente and to weaken the threat of a global cataclysm. "THAT STRUGGLE IS NOW THE MAIN GUARANTEE OF MANKIND'S PEACEFUL FUTURE," he said.

The struggle is not easy, and the complicated world situation poses the question: Do conditons for implementing detente processes consistent with the interests of all nations still exist? We find the answer to that important question, which is harassing mankind, precisely in the most authoritative pronouncement emerging from the Soviet capital: "WE ARE LOYAL TO THE PEACE PROGRAM PUT FORWARD BY THE 24TH AND 25TH CPSU CONGRESSES. THAT IS WHY IN THE EIGHTIES AS IN THE SEVENTIES WE ARE FOR STRENGTHENING DETENTE AND NOT FOR DESTROYING IT, FOR CURBING ARMAMENTS AND NOT FOR INTENSIFYING THEM, FOR RAPPROCHEMENT AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AMONG NATIONS AND NOT FOR ARTIFICIAL ALIENATION AND HOSTILITY."

Those words confirm the resolution with which the Soviet Union implements its foreign policy, which has the full support of the Polish people as well, who, as the Eighth PZPR Congress resolution states: "PROCEEDING FROM THE ASSUMPTION THAT PEACE AND DETENTE ARE THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL MANKIND, WILL MAKE CONSISTENT EFFORTS TO DEFUSE INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS AND TO SOLVE CONFLICTS BY PEACEFUL MEANS."

GLOS PRACY VIEWS 22 FEB BREZHNEV SPEECH

AU291404 Warsaw GLOS PRACY in Polish 25 Feb 80 p 2 AU

[Commentary signed "(I.)": "Expressing Realism and Calm"]

[Text] Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev made a speech last Friday at a meeting with Moscow voters which has made a great impact in the Soviet Union and abroad. The Soviet leader discussed the country's key socioeconomic problems and stressed its great achievements. These points will be subjected to detailed discussions before the 26th CPSU Congress, preparations for which have just started, he said.

Leonid Brezhnev devoted much attention to the external conditions under which communist construction is being implemented in the USSR. Speaking of cooperation with socialist countries, he stressed that it is a powerful mainspring of development of each fraternal country and a guarantee of continuous development of the entire community "in these difficult and restless times," as he said.

In his speech the Soviet leader analyzed in a remarkably realistic and calm manner the main international problems of the present world. We note above all the fact that the analysis, while reaching the sources of the present tensions and conflicts, was couched in very serious and meaningful terms dictated by a sense of responsibility.

Leonid Brezhnev discussed with profound concern for the fate of peace and detente the most recent features of the militancy of cold war and antidetente forces and the anti-Soviet campaign unleashed by those forces. He recalled that, beginning with the NATO session that decided to increase military expenditures and to arm Europe with new nuclear missiles through the present campaign in connection with Soviet assistance for Afghanistan, the antidetente forces are intensifying activities to worsen the world situation. It has become obvious, Leonid Brezhnev said, that the present U.S. administration is pursuing the policy of undermining detente and aggravating the international situation. It is trying to dictate its will to socialist states and to other countries. Leonid Brezhnev said, among other things, that Washington simply "needs a pretext for extending its expansion in Asia and is creating this pretext by every means possible."

The CPSU Central Committee general secretary once again recalled the facts connected with the Soviet presence in Afghanistan and repeated the familiar Soviet stand: "We will be ready to begin withdrawing our troops as soon as all forms of external interference against the Afghan Government and people are completely halted. Let the United States and Afghanistan's neighbors guarantee that, and the need for Soviet military assistance will lapse."

In his speech the Soviet leader gave another assurance that the Soviet Union will be faithful to the peace program put forward by the 24th and 25th CPSU congresses. He stressed that in the eighties as in the seventies the USSR will advocate the strengthening of detente and not its destruction, the curbing the armaments and not an intensification of them and rapprochement and mutual understanding among nations and not artificial alienation and hostility.

The Soviet Union's peace policy serves and will serve the implementation of those aims. That policy enjoys the support of all the socialist community countries, including our country. That was eloquently expressed during the recent Eighth PZPR Congress.

VANCE-DOBRYNIN MEETING MAY LEAD TO HIGHER-LEVEL CONTACTS

LD030952 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0001 GMT 3 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Political observers in Washington are following with great interest the new processes which have become noticeable of late in Soviet-American relations. In their view, the processes prove that the dialog with America, threatened by a wave of Washington's anti-Soviet moves, is being revived and could be deepened in the next few weeks.

Commentators think that this development in the situation would very obviously serve to strengthen the cause of international security and, at the very least, to partly lessen the tension which has been persisting in the past weeks in Soviet-American relations.

To confirm their expectations, commentators point to Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's recent meeting with Anatoliy Dobrynin, Soviet ambassador the to United States. Although what was talked about has not been revealed, it is thought that, among other things, a possible Soviet-American meeting at foreign minister level was broached. It is thought that it will be held as early as this month in one of the European capitals to deal with the events and situation in the countries of southwest Asia.

Washington commentators think that hints to revive the Soviet-American dialog can be found in recent public statements by Leonid Brezhnev and Jimmy Carter.

NEWSPAPER COMMENTARY VIEWS PROBLEMS WITH VANCE PARIS TRIP

AU291749 Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 26 Feb 80 p 5 AU

[Wojciech Zielinski commentary: "An American in Paris"]

[Text] What was to be a "big meeting" of foreign ministers ended in a show by the U.S. secretary of state in four West European capitals. The trip was not a success, as usually is the case when the principal actors obtain their invitations almost by force.

Why has there been no "big meeting?" At the beginning of February the French and FRG leaders held a "summit," the communique of which was received in Washington with satisfaction. Because of that satisfaction Washington failed to note that France "will avoid whatever can aggravate the tension between East and West." That oversight has had serious consequences for the United States. Immediately after the French-FRG summit the French people read in some American daily that the French, FRG, British and U.S. foreign ministers would meet in Bonn on 20 February to work out a joint Western stand vis-a-vis the Soviet Union.

That was no pleasant surprise for the French, and that is why they published the statement saying that "France is ready to continue consultations with its allies on various aspects of the international situation..., but that in the present situation France is not in favor of a joint meeting to discuss international tensions."

The French are again making trouble, people in Washington said, calling to mind all Paris' sins against the Atlantic community, especially against the United States. The aforementioned statement was evaluated as a painful surprise and humiliation, which called into question "the administration's ability to coordinate a joint response to the Afghan events." In that situation Vance wanted to go to Europe at any price in order to erase that question mark and put in its place an exclamation point or at least a period.

At the same time, French Premier Raymond Barre went to Washington, where he said quite officially that "France has no intention of expressing its unconditional solidarity with the United States and other allies with regard to the position the West should declare vis-a-vis the Afghan events. He also added that "France determines its position in line with its interests and the interests of the European continent, peace and freedom in the world." In view of such a response Barre could not have counted on applause, which FRG Foreign Minister Genscher could have expected because in his view the West European states' place is at the side of the United States and not between the two superpowers.

On the other hand, Paris was to be punished by being crossed off the schedule for Cyrus Vance's trip. But in the end the head of the State Department appeared in the French capital, where he was merely informed that the French insist on their position, that is, that they oppose the economic sanctions against the Soviet Union and are against the idea of a joint boycott of the Moscow Olympic games. Bonn and Rome are also resisting U.S. pressure on the last score, and only London has toed the Washington line.

Nevertheless, Vance showed "understanding" for the positions of the allies and said so publicly. In the present times that is a rather rare quality shown across the ocean, where almost every slight demonstration of indecision elicits a surge of negative feelings and reaction.

It seems that Washington's posture is a result of failure to understand the nature of detente, and that is the reproach fromulated in Western Europe, where it is being stressed that detente means for Europe something entirely different than what it means for the United States and that it has a permanent infrastructure in the shape of extensive economic links and contacts on many other planes, which are responsible for the fact that detente in Europe has a very specific meaning. "That is why," the London TIMES wrote, "the Europeans have to view the world events, including the Afghan events, from the angle of European detente." That is precisely the reason why they are expected to demonstrate responsibility and logic in conduct, which are the qualities that Washington, trammeled by the vision of burning oilfields, has lost--qualities like the ability to distinguish that which and the ability to distinguish that which an element of reality. [sentence as published] As a result, such a position leads to aggravation of the world situation, to increased tension and to pretexts for a new arms race. Leonid Brezhnev drew attention to that in his speech on Friday. He stated, at the same time, that the USSR will begin withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan as soon as "all the forms of outside interference against the Afghan Government and people are halted."

That statement and the entire speech made by the Soviet leader has reaffirmed the Soviet Union's loyalty to peaceful policy and the permanence of the Soviet foreign policy, which is of particular significance in the present situation.

DEFENSE MINISTER OBSERVES TRAINING WITH SOVIET UNITS

LD291640 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1400 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The army is fully implementing the decisions of the eighth party congress on strengthening the country's defense capability and improving the training and educational efficiency of the armed forces of the Polish People's Republic.

Proof of this is the now traditional joint tactical exercises organized at the Silesian military district open-air training ground of subunits of the Polish People's Army and of the northern group of Soviet Army troops.

There was a meeting between the soldiers of the subunits training at the open-air ground and Army Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski, minister of national defense and member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo. The minister observed the cooperation between Polish and Soviet commanders and expressed interest in the efficiency of decisionmaking, the organization of cooperation and also the social and living conditions of the soldiers.

[Warsaw PAP in English at 2126 GMT on 29 February carries a short report on the joint exercises which adds: "The training was also attended by General Afanasiy Shcheglov, representative of the commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Treaty Armed Forces at the Polish Army, and commander-in-chief of the Soviet Army Northern Group General Yuriy Zarudin."]

COOPERATION CONFERENCE WITH FRG OPENS IN BIELEFELD

LD291012 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0100 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] A conference began in Bielefeld in the FRG yesterday to examine the balance of the 10-year-old treaty between Poland and the FRG on the basis of normalization of mutual relations, signed in Warsaw on 7 December 1970.

The conference was initiated by the German-Polish Society in the FRG, whose headquarters is in Duesseldorf, and whose aim is to support the normalization of relations with Poland. Coorganizer of the meeting is the Western Institute in Poznan. The conference is being attended by numerous academics, politicians and economic activists from both countries. Jan Chylinski, Polish ambassador to the FRG, in his welcoming speech stressed the role still being played by the treaty in mutual relations, and above all in the building of an atmosphere of peace, detente and mutually advantageous cooperation in Europe.

PAP on Conference Results

LD010845 Warsaw PAP in English 0505 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Bonn, 29 Feb, PAP--A two-day conference on the evaluation of the implementation of resolutions of the Poland-FRG treaty on the bases for the normalization of their mutual relations, signed on December 7, 1970 in Warsaw, came to an end tonight in Bielefeld. The organizer of the conference was the Duesseldorf-based FRG's German-Polish Society, which for thirty years has been fostering an atmosphere of understanding, confidence and good-neighbourly relations between the two countries.

Minister of State in Bonn's Foreign Ministry Klaus Von Dohnanyi took part in the conference. He reviewed the relations between Poland and the FRG from the time of signing the treaty, emphasizing the treaty's statement that the border on the Odra and Nysa forms Poland's western border. "That will not change in any way in the future, either", he said.

The conference, whose co-organizer was the Polish Research Society-the Western Institute, assembled a large group of researchers, politicians, experts, social, cultural and business activists from the two countries. They stressed that the treaty, a significant element of Europe's peace structure, is the only basis on which the advanced, though not free from obstacles and barriers, normalization process may develop. It was said that not just the fact of signing the treaty, but its full implementation will determine the development and shaping of future Poland-FRG relations. A positive result of these relations is the continuation and progress of a political dialogue on many planes. Likewise, the economic, cultural and scientific exchange contributes to mutual knowledge and understanding. Social and youth contacts have intensified, tourist traffic is growing.

On the other hand, as the Polish side indicated, one cannot overlook weighty problems which need to be solved. They boil down to the necessity for all the spheres and aspects of the relations to be consistently based on the immovable foundation set for the two sides by the treaty of December 7, 1970. The introducing of common recommendations on school textbooks to the FRG practice is proceeding in a very unsatisfactory way.

The FRG internal legislation is incompatible with the state's international obligations or the political and territorial reality in Europe. Contrary to the letter and spirit of the 1970 treaty are the laws on customs, citizenship, turnover tax, social benefits for war victims, resettlers, and others, which still are based on the archaic and even revisionist concept of the alleged formal existence of the German Reich within the 1937 borders.

Economic cooperation is hampered by barriers and difficulties mounted by the West German side, such as the lack of encouragement for industrial cooperation or for cooperation between small and medium-size enterprises.

As regards the suspension of the agreement on cooperation between Krakow and Nuremberg, it was stated that this kind of collaboration between cities cannot be reconciled with acceptance for the activity of resettlers', revisionist and revanchist organizations.

The conference confirmed the will of the two sides to continue the process of normalization of relations and foster an atmosphere of peace and detente in the current international situation.

PZPR'S WASZCZUK MEETS WITH PCF'S GREMETZ IN PARIS

LD022240 Warsaw PAP in English 1728 GMT 2 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Paris, 2 March, PAP--PUWP CC Secretary Jerzy Waszczuk had a meeting in Paris yesterday with member of the Political Bureau and CC Secretary of the French Communist Party [PCF] Maxim Gremetz.

In the course of the meeting which was held in a cordial atmosphere the two discussed questions of interest to both parties and those of peace and disarmament in particular. It was agreed that the two parties will continue and develop cooperation in these fields.

FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR VISIT

LD022238 Warsaw PAP in English 1711 GMT 2 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Warsaw, 2 March, PAP--Secretary of state attached to minister of foreign affairs Olivier Stirn, accompanied by Mme Stirn, arrived in Poland today for an official visit at the invitation of Polish Foreign Minister Emil Wojtaszek. The guests were welcomed at the Krakow airport by President of the City of Krakow Edward Barszcz and diplomatic protocol director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Henryk Laszcz.

Olivier Stirn arrived here on an official visit to represent the French side in periodical consultations between the two foreign ministries on bilateral relations and current international situation.

During their stay in Krakow tomorrow the French guests will make a sight-seeing tour of the city in the morning and in the afternoon they will leave for Warsaw.

WOJTASZEK RECEIVES VISITING HEAD OF OPANAL

LD012148 Warsaw PAP in English 2113 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Warsaw, 1 March, PAP--On March 1 the Foreign Minister Emil Wojtaszek received Dr Hector Gros-Espiell, secretary general of the Organization for the Prohibition of Nuclear Arms in Latin America (OPANAL), who is visiting Poland on the invitation of the Polish Academy of Sciences Institute of State and Legislation.

OPANAL is a regional organization founded to supervise the implementation of the Tlatelolco Treaty, which provides for keeping America clear of nuclear weapons. It also performs an important political function in strivings towards detente in Latin America. It manifested its commitment to that cause when last year in Ecuador's capital, Quito, the OPANAL general conference adopted a resolution which considered man's right to live in peace, expressed in the UN declaration on the preparation of societies for life in peace, to be the basis of activities and one of the requisites for the success of the international community's strivings towards detente.

Emil Wojtaszek and Hector Gros-Espiell discussed these vital issues and their influence on further development of detente and disarmament. In this context, the significance of the 8th PUWP Congress resolution on the preservation of peace, stopping the arms race and the continuation of the peace policy was emphasized.

KANIA, PALIMAKA ATTEND CONFERENCE OF PZPR RESOLUTIONS

LD021100 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0400 GMT 2 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Minister of Justice Jerzy Bafia presided over and Stanislaw Kania and Teodor Palimaka attended the conference of chairmen of viovodship courts, district labor and social insurance courts, directors of penal institutions' district boards, and representatives of other bodies in the Department of Justice, which was held in Warsaw yesterday. The conference was held to discuss a program of action for the next 5 years in the light of the Eighth PZPR Congress resolutions.

Stanislaw Kania recalled the high praise for the work of the organs of justice contained in the report read at the eighth party congress by Edward Gierek. He also pointed out the persisting weaknesses and current tasks in the service of consistant observance of law, strengthening of law and order and social discipline.

GRUDZIEN, SZYDLAK ATTEND JOINT TRADE UNION SESSION

LD292246 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2000 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] A joint enlarged plenary session of the central boards of miners, steel workers and chemical industry workers unions and the Katowice Voivodship People's Council and trade union council was held in Katowice today. The session was attended by party Central Committee Politburo members Zdzislaw Grudzien and Jan Szydlak, chairman of the Central Council of Trade Unions [CRZZ].

Much time in the discussion was devoted to further improvement of forms and methods of work especially, at the grassroots level of the unions.

The shared responsibility of works' councils for economic and social results of work at enterprises demands from them an active action aimed at achieving greater productivity and improvement of the organization of work. Another important matter discussed was the role of trade unions in the development of worker self-management.

Concluding the discussion, Jan Szydlak, chairman of the CRZZ, stressed that the 12-million strong trade unions approve as their own the program mapped out by the Eighth party congress. The point is now to support its implementation with practical, excellent work.

PAP DISCUSSES ELECTIONS, ROLE OF SEJM

LD011710 Warsaw PAP in English 1300 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[By PAP journalist Maurycy Kamieniecki]

[Text] Warsaw, 1 March, PAP--The list of candidates for deputies to the Polish Sejm has been announced today. The election of the 460 deputies is to take place on March 23. After testing the opinion of voters from various social circles, political, professional and social organizations have put forth their candidatures to the Polish parliament.

The list of candidates includes people enjoying respect and esteem in their social environments, PUWP members and members of the UPP and DP, non-party persons, activists from Catholic associations within the National Unity Front, representatives of basic social groups, professional milieux and areas, workers, farmers, eminent scientists and cultural personalities, industrial organizers, youth activists and women.

It is expected that the Sejm, which will be elected on March 23, will continue to consolidate its position as the highest organ of state authority in Poland. The legislative function of the Polish parliament and its control over the functioning of the administration have strengthened visibly in the past decade. The Sejm widened its scope of decisions concerning key problems in the country's life and development. The Sejm also paid more attention to the international scene, initiating a broad development of interparliamentary contacts.

It is expected that the newly-elected Sejm will regard control, especially in the field of shaping socio-economic plans in Poland and their execution, as one of its main tasks. It is worth mentioning that two months ago--in the present term of office--the Sejm decided that changes in the national plan and budget should not be made during realization without previously notifying parliamentary organs and learning their view.

Increasing the effectiveness of Sejm committees is another direction of further consolidating the role of the future Sejm. This is already an important point in discussions and confrontations of viewpoints with ministries and administration control organs. This is proved, among others, by about 680 demands and opinions adopted in 4 years and presented to the government.

This course of development of the Polish Sejm is fully supported by the PUWP. The recent 8th PUWP Congress brought new ideas of strengthening the Sejm's role, in accord with the party policy of developing and improving socialist democracy in Poland. During the congress, the PUWP declared that it would support the continued consolidation of the Sejm.

TRADE PROTOCOL WITH PRC SIGNED IN BEIJING

AU291552 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1400 GMT 29 Feb 80 AU

[Text] Following negotiations which took place in an atmosphere of warm friendship, a protocol was signed in Beijing today on the exchange of goods and payments for 1980 between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Government of the PRC.

On the basis of the signed document, China will deliver to Romania machine-tools, other machines and equipment, metal pressing equipment, medical instruments and apparata, coke, coal, colored metals, ferrous alloys, bauxite, chemical products, cotton, textiles, rice, fish, canned vegetables and fruit and other consumer goods.

In turn, our county will deliver to China oil equipment and installations, trucks, buses, mini-buses, utility vehicles, electric diesel locomotives, computers, television sets and picture tubes, pipes and steel rolled goods, aluminum, chemical products and other goods.

The protocol was signed for the Romanian side by Cornel Burtica, deputy prime minister of the government and minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, and for the Chinese side by Li Qiang, minister of foreign trade.

TRADE PROTOCOL FOR 1980 SIGNED WITH POLAND

AU011910 Bucharest AGREPRES in English 1835 GMT 1 Mar 80 AU

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 1/3/1980--The protocol regarding the goods exchanges and the payments between Romania and the Polish People's Republic for 1980 was signed on March 1, in Bucharest.

The volume of reciprocal goods deliveries marks this year an increase as to the achievements of 1979. According to the document, Romania will deliver to Poland, among other things, machine-tools for metal processing, oil equipment, machines and equipment for constructions, products of the electronic and electrotechnical industries, diesel hydraulic locomotives, textile machinery, measure and control apparata, automation devices, iron-and-steel products, chemical products, various consumer goods.

In its turn Poland will deliver to Romania, among other things, machine-tools, construction equipment, diesel engines, ship equipment, products of the electrotechnical industry, mining equipment, machines for the chemical industry, textile machines, steam coal and coking coal, chemical products, iron-and-steel products, consumer goods.

JAPANESE JOINT COMMISSION ENDS; PROTOCOL SIGNED

AU291911 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1840 GMT 29 Feb 80 AU

[Text] Tokyo (AGERPRES), 29/2/1980--The sixth session of the Romanian-Japanese joint governmental economic commission took place over February 27-28, 1980 in Tokyo. On the occasion the stage of the bilateral economic relations was surveyed and the necessity was stressed to intensify the efforts for increasing the volume of commercial exchanges and for further expanding the cooperation ventures with Japan and on third markets. A protocol was signed in concluding the session.

RADULESCU CONTINUES VISIT, HOLDS TALKS IN TOKYO

Meeting With Crown Prince

AU011924 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1600 GMT 1 Mar 80 AU

[Excerpt] Japan's Crown Prince Akihito has received Comrade Gheorghe Radulescu, vice president of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania, in Tokyo. On this occasion, the two sides recalled the state visit paid by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and Comrade Elena Ceausescu to Japan in 1975, as well as the visit paid to Romania by Prince Akihito, together with Princess Micmiko as representative of Emperor Hirohito.

They stressed the importance of these visits for developing relations of friendship between the two countries and peoples.

We would like to repeat that Comrade Gheorghe Radulescu has represented the RCP at the 15th Congress of the Japanese Communist Party, which ended its proceedings today.

Talks With Socialist Leader

AU031143 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0943 GMT 3 Mar 80 AU

[Text] Tokyo (AGERPRES) 3/3/1980--Ichio Asukata, chairman of the Executive Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Japan, received Gheorghe Radulescu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP.

On the occasion, friendly salutes were exchanged between Nicolae Ceausescu and Ichio Asukata, and the joint wish was expressed of further developing the relations between the RCP and the SPU.

During the interview that passed in a cordial atmosphere, some current concerns of the two parties were shared and opinions were exchanged on the international situation.

CEAUSESCU ENVOY MEETS WITH AL-QADHDHAFI IN TRIPOLI

AU291542 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1400 GMT 29 Feb 80 AU

[Text] During a visit to Tripoli by Vasile Pungan, minister secretary of state and special envoy of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, an exchange of messages took place between Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and the leader of the great revolution of 1 September of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

A message of friendship was extended on behalf of the president of Romania to the friendly Arab Libyan people, together with wishes for good health and personal happiness to Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Expressing thanks for the message, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi asked the guest to convey, on his and his family's behalf, sincere wishes for good health and feelings of fraternal friendship to the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania and to Comrade Elena Ceausescu, as well as wishes for prosperity and continuous progress to the friendly Romanian people.

On the basis of the opinions and viewpoints held by the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the two sides exchanged views on matters pertaining to bilateral relations and on certain aspects of international relations of common interest.

The meeting took place in an atmosphere of warm friendship and mutual esteem which characterizes relations between Romania and the Libyan Jamahiriyah and between the leaders of the two states.

CEAUSESCU RECEIVES BRITISH AEROSPACE BUSINESSMAN

AU291909 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1858 GMT 29 Feb 80 AU

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 29/2/1980--On February 29, President Ceausescu received Allen Greenwood, vice-chairman of "British Aerospace", who paid a visit to Romania.

During the interview that passed in a cordial atmosphere, highlighted was the course of the relations of collaboration between the relevant Romanian industry and "British Aerospace" and discussed were questions regarding the further development of the Romanian-British cooperation in aviation and other sectors of the machine-building industry.

The interview was attended by Gheorghe Oprea, Romanian first deputy prime minister, and Ioan Avram, minister of the machine-building industry, as well as by Paul Cecil Holmer, ambassador of Great Britain in Bucharest.

LEATHER, FUR, FOOTWEAR WORKERS' PAY GOES UP 1 MARCH

AU011002 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0910 GMT 1 Mar 80 AU

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 1/3/1980--Since March 1, 1980, 120,000 working people of the Romanian leather, fur and footwear industry benefit by a new rise of remuneration. Adding to the increase enforced during the first state, (1977-1978), the newly granted growth, an average 13.3 percent, will result in a 32.9 surplus as compared to 1975.

In absolute figures, over March 1-December 31 this year, the working people in this industry will get by 300 million lei more than over the same lapse of time, the last year.

During the first stage of remuneration increase, concluded on June 1, 1978 three months ahead of initially planned date, the working people in Romania benefited by over two billion lei extra incomes. Over 1975-1978 real remuneration grew by 21.4 percent, the targets planned for the entire 1976-1980 quinquennium being achieved in three years. During the second stage, scheduled between August 1, 1979 and December 1, 1980, the stipulations will be fully materialized of the programme of raising the standard of living, real remuneration in 1980 being planned to exceed by 30-32 percent that of 1975, as compared to an initially planned 18-20 percent.

Over the 1981-1985 five-year plan period the fund meant for remunerations will grow by 43.2 percent as compared to 1980.

BRIEFS

JOINT HUNGARIAN OIL PROTOCOL--Bucharest, AGERPRES, 28/2/1980--The ninth meeting of the Romanian-Hungarian oil and gas working group was held in Bucharest over February 25-28. After the proceedings, Gheorghe Vlad, Romanian deputy minister of mining, oil and geology, and Istvan Szengelleer, Hungarian deputy minister of heavy industry, signed a protocol on the exploitation of deposits of mutual interest and the establishment of a permanent exchange of technical-scientific information. [Text] [Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1940 GMT 28 Feb 80 AU]

TITO'S HEALTH, HEART DETERIORATE FURTHER

AU021208 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1200 GMT 2 Mar 80 AU

[Text] During the past night a deterioration of the general state of health of Josip Broz Tito, president of the republic, and especially a further weakening of the heart, took place. The necessary intensive treatment measures continue.

[Signed] The Doctors' Council

State of Health 'Grave'

LD031102 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1055 GMT [illegible] 80 LD

[Text] Ljubljana--The general state of health of President of the Republic Josip Broz Tito continues to be grave. Intensive treatment is continuing.

[Signed] The Doctors' Council

BREZHNEV ELECTION SPEECH REPEATS KNOWN SOVIET POSITIONS

LD291406 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1907 GMT 22 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 22 (TANJUG)--The Soviet Union will be ready to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan only after "all forms of foreign interference fully cease", Soviet party and state leadership Leonid Brezhnev said today speaking in the Kremlin congress hall to delegates of his Moscow electoral district.

Brezhnev's was the last in a series of speeches by Soviet officials prior to the elections for the republican supreme soviets and local authorities.

Washington demands the withdrawal of Soviet troops, Brezhnev set out, but at the same time is doing everything "to put off such a possibility". Brezhnev accused the United States of "continued and intensified interference" in Afghanistan's internal affairs. Brezhnev also noted China's part in the "intervention", as he termed it.

Brezhnev presented no new proposals today. He accused the United States, however, of "undermining detente" and straining the international situation.

The Soviet party and state leader presented the world situation as rather bleak--he set out that "forces of imperialism have launched a counteroffensive against detente and peace", and, for this reason, he called for the "unity of action of socialist countries".

Brezhnev did not announce any new, joint initiatives towards easing world tensions. He reiterated the well-known Soviet stand on Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea and concluded his analysis of the world situation by stressing that the Soviet Union and its allies strive for the consolidation and not undermining of detente.

U.S. SIGNALS READINESS TO TALK WITH USSR ON AFGHANISTAN

LD291452 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1337 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Washington, February 29 (TANJUG)--The U.S. State Department yesterday expressed the readiness to continue the "exchange of signals" with Moscow on possibilities for solving the crisis round Afghanistan.

State Department spokesman Hodding Carter indirectly called on the Soviet Union clearly to formulate its approach to a solution to the crisis, since the "signals" sent so far are not clear to the U.S. administration.

Hodding Carter observed that the U.S. stand on possibilities for solving the crisis round Afghanistan has been clearly stated in President Carter's reply to Yugoslav President Tito's message of February 20.

Hodding Carter repeated that the U.S. did not intervene in the internal affiars of Afghanistan and that, in case the Soviet troops withdrew soon, the U.S. would be ready to join the international guarantees of Afghanistan's neutrality and non-interference in its internal affairs.

The U.S. diplomacy claims that the gap is still very great between the U.S. and Soviet stands on whether the U.S. and countries neighboring with Afghanistan have interfered in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

The interest is shown here, however, in establishing, after the initial "signals", an exchange of views also at the formal level. It has been stressed, however, that no dialogue between the U.S. and the Soviet Union on the questions is pursued at the present.

The U.S. interest in opening a dialogue with Moscow on the Afghan crisis is reflected in the repeated hint of the U.S. administration that it will do everything for the U.S. Congress to ratify the SALT II agreement signed with the Soviet Union.

The statement seems contradictory since President Carter has asked the Congress to take off its agenda the SALT II ratification. It is nevertheless, taken as an additional "signal" for opening possibilities for formal U.S.-Soviet talks.

VANCE, DOBRYNIN TALK PROOF OF U.S. INTEREST IN AFGHAN SOLUTION

ID011046 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0900 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Washington, March 1 (TANJUG)--Increasing interest in finding way to begin solving the Afghanistan crisis through negotiation has been noticed in U.S. official circles in the last two days.

U.S. official circles, as the New York TIMES writes, would want that the initiative for the solution of the problem of withdrawal of Soviet troops be given by Moslem countries of the region. Yet the acceptance by U.S. allies in Western Europe to try to set up contacts with Moscow regarding this question will not be rejected either.

Washington again emphasized that before the Soviet troops entered Afghanistan "there was no foreign interference there" and that, because of that, it continues insisting that "first of all" withdrawal of Soviet troops must take place.

The talk between Secretary of State Vance and Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin in Washington yesterday (it was the first American-Soviet high-level contact after the Afghanistan crisis broke out) should certainly be taken as a proof of the U.S. readiness to examine possibilities which would lead to withdrawal of Soviet troops and halt of "anti-Soviet measures" within the framework of "the American response to the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan".

NONINTERFERENCE GUARANTEE CONDITION OF SOVIET TROOP WITHDRAWAL

AU022034 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 2 Mar 80 AU

[Text] The Soviet proposal that the United States guarantee noninterference in Afghanistan has been expanded to include the idea that the security of the oil transport routes from the Persian Gulf to the Western markets should be guaranteed under UN auspices. A commentary by the Soviet news agency TASS points out that the European conference on energy problems should examine the question of the security of the routes, as well as the question of the commercial approach of all the countries to the oil sources in the Persian Gulf area.

The guarantee of noninterference in internal affairs of Afghanistan is interpreted in Moscow as a condition for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from that country.

In the meantime, Soviet information media continue to criticize the position of the Western countries on the Afghan crisis, pointing out that the Western proposals on Afghanistan's neutralization constitute a screen behind which, as SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA stresses, the threads of a plot are being woven.

EEC AFGHAN PROPOSAL EVIDENCE OF EUROPEAN DESIRE FOR DETENTE

AU010844 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 24 Feb 80 p 8 AU

[Vlado Teslic commentary: "A Different Western Europe"]

[Text] Western Europe, of course, is no homogeneous whole, either economically or politically, but in the present crisis it is more and more clearly adopting autonomous positions. The essential thing in this respect is that Western Europe does not identify with either the interests nor the policy of its protector holding the nuclear umbrella on the other side of the Atlantic and that it is more and more clearly confirming the policy of detente as its overwhelming political interest.

In fact it is difficult to conceal the great disappointment both in the Soviet Union and United States over West European positions on Afghanistan and the crisis of relations between the two big powers. Moscow obviously did not expect a united position by all the West European countries denouncing the Soviet military action in Afghanistan, seeing in this act a threat to world peace and demanding an unconditional withdrawal of the Soviet Armed Forces from Afghanistan, according to which they will determine their future policy toward the Soviet Union.

Washington, for its part, cannot conceal the U.S. Government's (and the Congress') dissatisfaction with the "lukewarm support" for America as regards the retaliation measures and sanctions against the Soviet Union, or rather with the lack of readiness of the American partners in Europe to resort for their part to reprisals, threats and a blockade of economic, sports and other cooperation.

Secretary of State Vance's visit to West European capitals after the failure of the initiative to have the ministers meet in Bonn, indicates a weakening of pressure in America's "friendly persuasion" of its allies. There is no doubt that each of these countries (the FRG, Italy, Britain and France) is prepared to make an "individual" contribution to the general Western strategy, as Genscher recently put it in Bonn. There is also no doubt that the West European countries all together, in contrast to the United States, are interested in the preservation of the achievements of the detente and in an open door for negotiations in the solving of all the problems, including Afghanistan.

This is also evidenced by the proposal of the EEC foreign ministers concerning a neutralization of Afghanistan, made after their meeting in Rome at the beginning of the week. It is interesting that the proposal was made by Lord Carrington, British foreign secretary, the most distinguished adherent of American policy in Western Europe and an advocate of sharp measures against the Soviet Union. Many will see in this proposal the old approach of the former colonial and imperial Britain, identical with the peculiar formula of the past century proposed to and imposed on the Russian tsars by the British in regard to Afghanistan and its transformation into a "barrier" [otiranue] or "buffer" state between the two big powers. The Americans are now accepting this with both hands, because they are still guided by the same approach regarding Afghanistan. The proposal was also accepted by other West European countries, probably because they see no other solution yet and perhaps in order to have the proposal serve as a basis for further negotiations with the Soviet Union.

Regardless of whether this is a trial balloon or something else, it is obvious that the concept of the proposed neutralization does much more to conceal the old approach of the big powers to a small country than it does to offer a solid basis for a just solution in the spirit of existing criteria and achievements of the international community.

The key question of Afghanistan now is the withdrawal of all the foreign troops and of all outside influence and interference, or rather the creation of conditions for the sovereignty of the people of Afghanistan, for them freely to express themselves and decide on the future of their country. "Neutralization" in the old sense, imposed on small countries by big powers proceeding from their own interests and the policy of spheres of interest, is one thing, and "neutrality" of Afghanistan in relation to the big powers, or rather nonalinement to one bloc or another is a different thing.

It seems as though both sides are facilely passing over the fact that Afghanistan joined nonalinement as early as 1961 and that as a nonalined country it played a significant role in a sensitive region of central Asia. Such a role of nonalined Afghanistan will gain in importance also in the future.

CCP PLENUM RESULTS CREATE CONDITIONS TO 'OPEN UP TO WORLD'

LD011824 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[Text] We have devoted our topical foreign political commentary to the Fifth Plenum of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, which has just ended. What might the rehabilitation of Liu Shaoqi mean? Here is Milika Sundic:

China--judging from the outcome of the 7-day debate at the Fifth Plenum of the CCP Central Committee which has just ended--has gone one step further toward putting its internal situation in order and solving the burning problems which the new leadership, led by Hua Guofeng, inherited from the cultural revolution. Four members of the Politburo resigned, but, with the rehabilitation of Liu Shaoqi, former head of state and an opponent of Mao, the necessary conditions have been created for the process of internal democratization to come to a successful close, and, further, for the stimulation of China's opening up to the world and of the world to China.

Although it is not known what went on during the debate at the plenum--especially in the case of the changes in the composition of the Politburo and the rehabilitation of Liu Shaoqi--everything points to the conclusion that Hua Guofeng's position is firm and that one can no longer speak of uncertainties, either in domestic or foreign affairs. It is true that many have not doubted Hua's courage and systematic method, even less his undisputed popularity in the country.

After all, although it was known that the Central Committee plenum was being prepared and that is would adopt significant decisions there was no lack of vigor in China in either the domestic or foreign political spheres. On the contrary, apart from the complexity of China's relations with the Soviet Union and Vietnam, China has demonstrated--even in the very complicated international situation of today--sufficient readiness to take part in its resolution. Of course, there are assessments which are contrary to this, but they are minor when compared to the real situation. After all, China has realized in a relatively short time that there cannot be socialism without peace, or that only in conditions of peace can it carry out the tasks before it and make up the evident lags left over from the cultural revolution. The latter is one of its priority tasks.

With the rehabilitation of Liu Shaoqi, which at the same time also means a certain criticism of Mao Zedong, some other possibilities in the sphere of relations and cooperation in the communist and workers movement are also being hinted at. This has already been manifest in the attitudes of the Chinese Communist Party to the West European Communist parties, in particular the Spanish Communist Party and the Italian Communist Party. [passage indistinct]

GRLICKOV ON WORLD CRISES, BLOC POLICIES, SPECULATIONS ON SFRY

LD012323 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2002 GMT 1 Mar 80 LD

[Text] As you know, recent reports in the foreign media about Tito and Yugoslavia have focused on our country's foreign political activity. This subject, as well as the possibilities of even greater socialization in carrying out international policy, was the subject of a 2-day consultative meeting of presidents and secretaries of republican and provincial League of Communists commissions for international cooperation held at the beginning of the week in Zagreb. The gathering was led by Dr Aleksandar Grlickov, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, whom we asked to define in more detail for you, dear compatriots, the current international situation in the world and Yugoslavia's position and prospects in it. The interview was conducted by Sonja Badel: [begin recording]

[Question] It is generally held that the international political situation has worsened. What are the main elements of this situation and how do you view the crisis in the process of relaxation of tension in relations between the great powers?

[Answer] Tension in the world is primarily the result of tension between the two great powers. On this basis there arose the crisis of what we call "detente", or peaceful coexistence. It is a case of a formula in current international relations which assumes that peaceful coexistence is independent of social systems and creates conditions where mankind can live in peace, but at the same time does not hinder social transformation, the class struggle, national liberation struggles and all other aspirations of nations and classes to realize their interests to the maximum. Of course, this formula of detente--which assumes, above all, peace between states with differing social systems--is not able to solve all world contradictions, all the interests of various classes, [word indistinct] of various social strata and of individual nations, nationalities and peoples as a whole.

With regard to the current moment in international relations, it is a very worrying one, something similar to the Cuban crisis. We do not expect the conflict to expand into a world conflict. It will probably last for a time in a continuing process of tension. Because there are certain limits to starting a world conflict--in view of the balance of military forces and nuclear forces--it can be realistically expected that there will be a process of stabilization of these bloc structures and possibly, after this, the start of negotiations, agreement making and parallel mutual competition between the two great powers.

In our country's view, detente, which is made solely on the basis of agreements between the two great powers, is impossible. Nor is detente possible between several great powers who make known their desires and demands to decide on the fate of the world, such as West Europe, let us say, such as China, as a potential great power, or Japan. Our country's position is that detente can only live, can only create the conditions of which I was speaking at first, at a time when all peoples of the world and all countries of the world decide equitably on the fate of the world and on its peace and progress.

[Question] The nonalined movement is again being reasserted as a great hope for mankind. What characterizes the activity of the nonalined countries in these complex international circumstances?

[Answer] You know, when one refers to the nonalined movement, one always aspires to make it the most united movement in the world, to make it a monolithic movement that will live without differences in the stands of its individual member countries. This is a great illusion on the part of those who think this way. Other political, military or economic organizations exist in the world--such as NATO, such as the EEC, such as the Warsaw Pact, such as CMEA--where absolute unity does not exist and where, on the contrary, differences exist. These organizations live in conditions of differences; they establish their unity on the basis of differences. (?But it is held) in the world that the nonalined movement must be more united and more monolithic than anything else. It has no claim to this because it is made up of the countries with different historical, civilization and cultural levels and with different levels of development of material production forces and different possibilities for their future development and different political systems--some are kingdoms, others are republics and others yet again are countries with a socialist orientation. Accordingly, when we talk about the unity of the nonalined movement we must talk realistically about its unity as being that of other political groupings and about unity on its principal points and on its basic orientation, and about differences in their orientations depending on the national interests of individual countries in concrete matters. The main orientation is the struggle against imperialism, the struggle against hegemonism and the struggle against all forms of domination, the struggle against neocolonialism, for a new international economic system. These are some of the basic parameters where the movement has established unity, where the movement emerges as one of the basic international political forces in the existing international political situation. The fact that on concrete matters individual countries will take different stands and will behave differently is the result of the manifestation of the national interests and of the position of the individual countries in the world.

Again I say that, as with other political groupings as I referred to earlier, contradictions do occur. There are people who are a little more in a hurry to resolve problems and others who view world problems in a more realistic manner. So the whole thing must be taken as a normal process of the development of a movement, just as the process of the development of contradictions throughout the world is normal. If we realize that international contradictions are difficult to resolve, so it is difficult to resolve the contradictions in the nonalined movement itself in view of the fact that what is involved are differences in national interests, although all countries in the world who are members of the nonalined movement have the same strategic political objectives.

[Question] In this troubled world there is a great deal of pressure on our country and speculation concerning its future. Please comment on this.

[Answer] We are used to the fact that people are always speculating about our country. We are in such a unique geopolitical position as we are (?one of the few) nonalined countries in Europe. We are a socialist country with its own system, with its own vision of socialism and domestic system. We decided to offer to the world a new alternative of socialism, self-managing and democratic, with all human, individual and collective freedoms. All this is making our country attractive to the world, if I may say so.

The world is keeping an eye on what is happening, what is going on in our country, considering that we represent an alternative social order which is unknown in the contemporary world, which aspires to give power directly to the working class, which aspires to give people optimal freedom, from economic to political freedom.

As I said, we are in a geopolitical position which is interesting to both blocs, East and West, and in any cataclysm in the world--I mean various international crises--our country is always one which is being threatened from one side or the other. We have thus lived for 30 years and experienced these world crises, always being the subject of pressure from one side or the other. However, as you see, we have overcome all this in the past 30 years and we do not see or visualize any reason why in this world crisis, too, in the crisis of international political relations, something should happen that is out of the ordinary. Yugoslavia remains as it is. Yugoslavia is not threatened by anyone. Of course, Yugoslavia is preparing itself, just as all other countries are preparing themselves in case there is an emergency. What we are doing is by far less than what is being done by East European and West European countries, or any country in the world, as regards the mobilization, mobility of the entire population for defense against any possible surprises. We are doing the bare minimum because of our belief in and certainty about the social position of our country, the political position of our country, about the mood of our population.

This is why it is not necessary to prove the calm and dignity shown by our working people in our country at a very high and visible level. This is the observation of this enormous number of journalists who sit in our country at this extraordinary historic moment, in view of the illness of the president of the republic.

Of course, the illness of the president of the republic itself represents an upset for our population in view of his role in our country and especially because of his role in the world. Yugoslavia has institutions, which are functioning, and the constitutional order which is functioning--created by President of the Republic Comrade Tito during his lifetime. Yugoslavia lives within the framework of these institutions, or as Western or other journalists would say "lives in the post-Tito period on the basis of the existing constitutional order"--in conditions of self-managing socialism, democratic socialism, or figuratively speaking: socialism in democracy and democracy in socialism. [end recording]

FEDERAL COUNCIL PRAISES RELATIONS WITH ARAB STATES

LD291836 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1625 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Belgrade, February 29, (TANJUG)--Arab countries occupy an important place in Yugoslavia's international relations. They are Yugoslavia's important partner both in its bilateral relations and on the international political and economic scene. This was stressed at today's session of the Federal Council for International Relations devoted to Yugoslav cooperation with the Arab countries.

The participants in the session stressed that the Yugoslav and the Arab countries' stands on a number of important international issues are close or identical. What especially brings Yugoslavia closer to these countries is the identity of the fundamental views on the Middle East crisis and on the principles of a lasting and just solution to this crisis. Of special importance, the session noted, is the joint commitment to the policy of nonalignment and the activity within Mediterranean countries' endeavours to turn this region into a zone of peace and cooperation.

The Arab countries find in the policy of nonalignment a support for their own path of development and independent international position, it was said. They represent an important force of the nonaligned movement, the session stressed.

In the opinion of the council, the trends and developments in the Arab countries are of special interest for the security and international position of Yugoslavia. Deriving from this is a permanent interest in the development of ever more comprehensive relations and cooperation between Yugoslavia and Arab countries. The session noted in particular the major importance of economic cooperation with Arab countries for the economic development of Yugoslavia. This cooperation is increasing, although it still encompasses a smaller number of Arab countries and lags behind the overall development of relations and the real possibilities.

The council pointed out that efforts should be made to expand the Yugoslav imports from Arab countries so as to include, in addition to the import of crude oil, other goods as well.

[Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 1313 GMT on 29 February carries a report on the same meeting noting that the session was chaired by LCY Presidium member Milos Minic]

ECONOMIC OFFICE OPENS IN BAGHDAD TO ENCOURAGE COOPERATION

LD291503 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1300 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Belgrade, February 29 (TANJUG)--A joint Yugoslav economic office has been founded in Baghdad for the region of Iraq. The main task of this office is to co-ordinate and encourage economic cooperation between the two countries. Iraq is Yugoslavia's leading economic partner amongst the developing countries and takes fifth place in the overall Yugoslav foreign trade, immediately behind the USSR, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and Czechoslovakia. This year, trade between the two countries will, it is expected, reach the value of some one billion, 400 million dollars in both directions.

COMMODITY TRADE WITH CUBA TO BE INCREASED

LD292000 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1738 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Belgrade, February 29 (TANJUG)--Commodity trade between Yugoslavia and Cuba is to reach about 30 million dollars by the end of this year, which would be a 50-percent increase on the 1979 level. This is one of the conclusions of the second session of the mixed commission for economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries which (?closed) here today.

Under an agreement reached at the (?session), Yugoslav commercial banks are to grant to Cuba about 40 million dollars credit, largely to finance the export of Yugoslav equipment. Yugoslavia and Cuba plan to expand cooperation in the fields of tourism and joint appearance on third markets, as well as investment. They also plan to develop in the future their overall economic cooperation on more lasting and balanced foundations.

The two countries' delegations to the talks were headed respectively by member of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council Dr Slobodan Gligorijevic and First Deputy Chairman of the Cuban State Committee for International Economic Cooperation Angel Trueba Gomez.

KOLISEVSKI SENDS TELEGRAM TO MOROCCAN KING ON TITO'S BEHALF

AU021235 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 2 Mar 80 AU

[Text] On behalf of President of the Republic Josip Broz Tito, Lazar Kolisevski, vice president of Yugoslavia's Presidency, has sent congratulations to Hasan II, King of Morocco, on the occasion of the Moroccan throne and independence day.

In his telegram Lazar Kolisevski expresses his belief in the need for a further successful development of the Yugoslav-Moroccan relations, friendship and cooperation in the interest of the peoples of the two countries and consistent implementation of the nonalined policy.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION REVIEWED

LD292234 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1840 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Belgrade, February 29, (TANJUG)--The objective of proposed changes in the Constitution of Yugoslavia is to facilitate the implementation of one-year, or two-year, mandates for presidents of organs of socio-political communities, and the further promotion of collective work, decision-making and responsibility.

These proposals were discussed today by the coordinating body for changes in the Constitution of Yugoslavia. The proposed changes concern the part of the Constitution relating to the basis of the socio-political system.

It has been proposed that presidents of the assemblies and presidents of the presidencies of socio-political communities in Yugoslavia be elected to one-year terms, and presidents of the executive councils of the Yugoslav republics and provinces to two-year terms. Under the proposal, these officials could not be elected twice to the same function during the mandate of members on these organs. An alternative to this proposes the inclusion in the Constitution of Yugoslavia of only a general principle according to which the above officials would be elected or appointed to four-year terms, while the duration of their mandate (?and) restrictions upon their election would be regulated by the republican and provincial constitutions.

According to the proposals, the mandate of president of the Assembly of Yugoslavia would last one year, and by the members of the Assembly from among the ranks of their delegates. The Assembly of Yugoslavia would have one vice-president elected in the same manner and to the same term as president of the Assembly. An alternative to this is the possibility of electing several presidents of the Assembly of Yugoslavia. Presidents of the two chambers of the Assembly of Yugoslavia--the Federal Chamber and the Chamber of Republics and Provinces--would also be elected to one-year terms.

Also proposed is that president of the Assembly of Yugoslavia and presidents of the Assembly Chambers be elected in turn from each of the Yugoslav republics or provinces.

SERBIAN PRESIDIUM, PRESIDENCY DISCUSS POLITICAL, SECURITY AFFAIRS

LD292008 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1516 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Belgrade--At today's joint session of the Serbian League of Communists Central Committee Presidium and the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia, which was chaired by Dr Tihomir Vlaskalic and Dobrivoje Vidic, there was a discussion of the political and security situation in the republic.

It was noted that previous comprehensive activity of the League of Communists and other organizations, as well as by sociopolitical communities and their organs, on implementing the decisions of the 11th LCY Congress and of the Eighth Serbian League of Communists Congress as well as social agreements and decisions by delegate assemblies, had significantly promoted the overall material, cultural and general development of the Socialist Republic of Serbia and that it has strengthened the already favorable and stable political situation and relations in the republic.

It was assessed that major progress had been made in the continued building up and strengthening of the system of all-people's defense and social self-protection and that the activity of all subjects had been very intensive and successful on these questions in the recent period.

It was also noted that in current complex international political and economic relations our self-management political system is demonstrating its full vitality and ability to successfully resolve all questions of significance for the development of our society on the bases of constitutional principles and in the spirit of generally accepted norms and the practice of socialist self-management.

In this connection, the full resolve and readiness was noted of the working class, working people and citizens, and the nations and nationalities of the Socialist Republic of Serbia to continue to develop and protect all the gains of our socialist revolution and self-management construction, as well as their full loyalty to the policy of nonalinement, which is carried out by our country in international relations.

Emphasis was laid on the need for full involvement by all social subjects in the most successful possible realization of the tasks of the current 5-year development plan for the republic and particularly the established economic stabilization policy. In this connection, the task of adopting the necessary social agreements and self-management agreements in good time was stressed, as well as the continued successful functioning of all the mechanisms of self-management agreement-seeking in the republic.

It was emphasized that there is a need to continue to devote the greatest attention in ideopolitical action to the realization and strengthening of the system of socialist self-management, the full development of collective work, of decisionmaking and responsibility at all levels, as aspects of the continued strengthening of brotherhood and unity and the equality of the nations and nationalities and the successful realization of practical tasks connected with carrying out our policy of nonalinement.

In the discussion, certain weaknesses in carrying out all these significant social tasks and jobs were noted and in this connection suitable tasks and measures to eliminate them as quickly as possible were set out.

Information on the progress of talks on the criteria to determine the degree of economic development of the republics and provinces was also discussed at the session.

VOJVODINA PRESIDENCY, PRESIDIUM MEET ON ECONOMY, TASKS

LD291933 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1250 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpt] Novi Sad--The Presidency of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Vojvodina and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Vojvodina held a joint session today. They discussed the results of wide social action to achieve socioeconomic stabilization in the province, to strengthen the system of all-people's defense and social self-protection and to develop brotherhood and unity and equality among peoples and nationalities.

The two presidencies assessed that the stable political situation in the province is reflected in the increased mobility and creative engagement of the sociopolitical organizations, delegate bodies and self-managing organs, all working people and citizens in the implementation of the most topical social tasks and in the development of socialist self-managing relations.

All areas are expressing readiness and ability to resolutely protect the achievements of the revolution and to defend our independence. The unity of communists, working people and citizens and of all peoples and nationalities in the Socialist Autonomous Province of Vojvodina has been expressed in the struggle for further revolutionary development and material progress of society and for the affirmation and strengthening of our independent nonalined foreign policy. Important results have been achieved in the strengthening and socialization of the system of all-people's defense and social self-protection and foreign policy. The commitment to work and the responsibility of all social subjects in the implementation of tasks of the policy of development and economic stabilization have been increased and special attention is being paid to the development of income relations, increased productivity and income, the struggle for greater quality of production and consistent implementation of the tasks outlined in Comrade Tito's New Year's message.

CROATIAN LEAGUE GROUP PROMOTES DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

LD291330 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1135 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Zagreb--Milka Planinc, president of the League of Communists of Croatia Central Committee, today held talks in Zagreb with members of the working group of the LCY Central Committee Presidium for all-people's defense and social self-protection.

The working group held talks on communes, work organizations and local communities on the implementation of the conclusions of the 11th LCY Congress in connection with all-people's defense and social self-protection. These talks were also held in other republics and provinces in order to promote direct understanding, within the narrowest units of society, of the activities connected with the further promotion and socialization of this work and service which mark preparations for the forthcoming meeting of the LCY Central Committee Presidium's Commission for All-People's Defense and Social-Self-Protection.

The members of the working group, led by Col Gen Petar Matic, emphasized that great interest exists among the working people and citizens in the local communities and work organizations for the widest possible inclusion in the activities connected with the defense and protection of the country and the entire system of socialist self-management. It was emphasized that solutions and values exist which fully confirm our concept of all-people's defense and social self-protection and which are constantly improving and developing this concept.

MACEDONIAN DEFENSE COUNCIL ADOPTS 1980 PROGRAM

LD291644 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1339 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Skopje--The Council for National Defense of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia today held a meeting under the chairmanship of Ljupco Arsov. It considered the report on the council's work from May 1978 to December 1979 and adopted the program of its work for this year.

The council also considered the directives of the Presidium of the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Macedonia on the organization and implementation of the action "All in Defense and Protection 1980." The basic emphasis of this action, it was said at the meeting, must always be on further socialization and close linking of all-people's defense and social self-protection as an integral function of our socialist self-managing society.

SLOVENE NEED FOR FOOD, ENERGY SUPPLIES SPURS DOMESTIC INVESTMENTS

LD291450 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1123 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Belgrade, February 29 (TANJUG)--The most developed Yugoslav constituent republic, Slovenia, will this and the next year invest 80 million U.S. dollars in the construction of capital projects in other Yugoslav constituent republics and autonomous provinces.

The need is underlined in Slovenia for the republic's more intensive links and co-operation with the other Yugoslav constituent republics and autonomous provinces in insuring steadier supplies in food, energy, raw and production materials and consumer goods. This would, in turn, effect a more balanced exploitation of Slovenia's economic potential. In this context, tax facilities are envisaged for investments in other parts of Yugoslavia.

Slovenia's raw materials and energy resources are (?below) the r blic's needs. Other Yugoslav regions, however, have much greater reserves in raw ma' als, energy and (?the) work force. The above has stimulated Slovenia to (?begin) _nvesting in other Yugoslav regions.

The Kosovo combine, in the underdeveloped autonomous province of Kosovo, will this year, for example, deliver 80,000 tons of dry brown coal to Slovenia. This year, Slovenian enterprises will build fruit and vegetable plantations in Kosovo. Slovenia invests in the construction of wheat and corn silos in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, the Yugoslav granary.

Talks are also underway between economy representatives of Slovenia and the Yugoslav constituent republics of Bosnia-Hercegovenia, Montenegro and Croatia on joint investments.

OIL COMPANY DRILLING IN NORTH ADRIATIC, PROSPECTING ABROAD

AU030918 Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 23 Feb 80 pp 17, 18 AU

[Summary] Eng Mavro Popijac, general director of the INA-Naftaplin work organization, has granted an interview to VJESNIK in which he discusses the current prospecting for oil at home and abroad carried out by the Ina-naftaplin work organization.

The Panon drilling platform which was purchased 2 years ago and which can operate offshore in seas up to 90 meters in depth is now drilling in the northern Adriatic, where 19 borings have been made so far. Another 30 to 40 borings, some of them up to 5,000 to 6,000 meters deep, will have to be made in the Adriatic. Several deposits of natural gas have already been found in the northern Adriatic, but the exploitation of this gas will be difficult because it is located in a layer of sand. However, natural gas was also found in a firm sediment of limestone. The exploitation of this natural gas may begin in 1983.

The INA-Naftaplin work organization is drilling in the northern Adriatic, that is between Zadar and Pula where the sea is shallower. To the south of Zadar the sea is over 90 meters deep and in order not to lose time foreign companies will be granted concessions to drill in this area. Several offers have already been received from companies from the European countries, the United States and Canada, and it is very likely that concessions will be granted to European companies. The selection will be made this year, and work may start at the end of this year or at the beginning of next year at the latest. The arrangements will be "somewhat different" from those off the Montenegrin coast where U.S. companies have been test drilling for several years.

Production drilling totalling 167,400 meters is planned for 1983. INA will set up a joint company with "Offshore International," which "is a Panamanian corporation with its headquarters in Houston, Texas. We shall participate 50-50 with the capital, and in this mixed company (INA-Offshore International) we would obtain their floating platform Chris Chenery which is now working in the North Sea." The crew will be 70 percent Yugoslav and would gain experience for the two more drilling rigs which may be built in Yugoslav shipyards.

By 1985, INA-Naftaplin plans to increase annual production to 3.5 million tons of crude oil and 2.4 billion cubic meters of gas. It has been experiencing difficulties in obtaining the foreign exchange needed for imported equipment

INA, together with Novi Sad Naftagas, has been searching for oil off the Gabon coast on a leased rig. Traces of oil have been found and the results are being examined. If the oil is exploited, the capital invested will be repaid. Otherwise it will have to be written off.

INA also has a 10 percent share in the capital invested in oil prospecting in Vietnam, which is carried out by Denimix of the FRG and Agip of Italy. An agreement was signed in November by INA, Naftagas and the DPRK for oil prospecting there, on a concession basis. A Japanese company will most probably be contracted to do the work.

INA has a share in the investment of a French company prospecting for oil in Chinese waters, and Naftagas a share in a U.S. company's prospecting there. The total Yugoslav share amounts to about $1.5 million.

An INA drilling team has completed work in Syria and moved to Iraq, where it has sunk four boreholes to a depth of 4,000 meters, working on contract.

VOJVODINA YPA CLUB DISCUSSES KARDELJ BOOK ON MILITARY THOUGHT

LD292104 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1611 GMT 29 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Novi Sad--The promotion of a book by the outstanding revolutionary and statesman Edvard Kardelj entitled "Revolution and Military Thought" was formally marked at the Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] club in Novi Sad today. Taking part in talks devoted to this exceptionally significant work were Col Gen Dane Petkovski, assistant federal secretary for national defense, and other high-ranking military officers and sociopolitical workers. Those taking part in this gathering pointed to the exceptional contribution made by Edvard Kardelj, one of Comrade Tito's closest fellow fighters, to the development of military thought and the strategy of all-people's defense war.

Col Gen Dane Petkovski addressed the officers and civilians on YPA service on topical questions of international relations.

The participants in today's gathering in the YPA club in Novi Sad sent a telegram to Marshal Josip Broz Tito, president of the republic and supreme commander of the SFRY Armed Forces, with best wishes for his recovery.